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OCTOBER 28, 2015 | NEW YORK

THE EUGENE H. GARDNER COLLECTION, PART IV



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The Eugene H. Gardner Collection, Part IV

October 28, 2015 | New York

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Wednesday, October 28 • 12:00 PM ET • Lots 98001-98822

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Session 2

Wednesday, October 28 • 9:00 PM CT • Lots 99001-99211

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The Eugene H. Gardner Collection, Part IV

Dear Bidder:

We are extremely pleased to return to New York for Part IV of the Eugene H. Gardner Collection of U.S. Coins! This is the final installment of four unreserved Heritage Auctions featuring the remarkable Gardner Collection, to be held on Wednesday, October 28 at the Waldorf Astoria.

The sale is devoted to Gene Gardner's duplicates, upgrades, and specialty pieces that were not part of his core sets. At one point, many of these coins were the premier coins in his main set until he found a better example. A duplicate in the eyes of Gene Gardner is nearly always a showpiece coin for the rest of us. Here are a few examples:

- An 1871-CC Seated quarter in AU55 PCGS, CAC, the sole finest non-Mint State example and Gene Gardner's "back-up coin" to the MS65 PCGS example sold in Part I of the Gardner Collection auction.
- An 1850 half dime, PR65 NGC, tied for the finest-graded of this elusive early proof Seated half dime issue and one of perhaps one dozen proofs that exist, Ex: Pittman/Kaufman.
- A 1796 JR-6 dime, MS64 ★ Prooflike, Ex: Bareford, Whitney, and Price...a coin of impeccable quality and provenance.
- A rare 1837 quarter, Browning-5, in MS65 NGC, CAC, from the Eliasberg Collection, not only finest of the variety, but double-struck far off-center on the reverse.
- An 1873-CC Arrows quarter, AU55 PCGS, with only two finer examples known of this key Carson City issue.
- A 1795 Flowing Hair half, O-104, T-24, graded MS61 NGC, a Condition Census example.
- An 1844 Seated half, PR62 NGC, one of two certified proofs of this early Seated issue at both services combined. Gene Gardner had the other, too, a miraculous PR65 PCGS, that sold in the Part I event.
- An 1842 Seated dollar, PR62 PCGS, one of eight to 10 proofs extant and the former John Jay Pittman coin.

This is literally a sale for everyone, with more than 1,000 lots from half cents and large cents to Trade dollars and commemorative silver. Even a few gold pieces are in the sale, including a complete set of Indian Head quarter eagles – a passing fancy, perhaps, to Gene Gardner (who specialized in the silver series), but as always the coins are lovely examples in high grades. For our internet bidders, nearly 200 pedigreed Gardner lots will appear in the Online Signature® Session.

With a few exceptions, the coins in the collection are sold exactly as Gene held them – often in the same holders they occupied when purchased. As with the previous Gardner sales, Heritage will offer interest-free payment terms for this auction. Please email GARDNER@HA.com for details and instructions on how to implement this option.

Previous sales of The Eugene H. Gardner Collection Parts I, II, and III have realized over \$47.1 million, already ranking the Gardner pedigree among the elite numismatic collections of all time, and which will confirm the Gardner Collection as ranking among the most memorable and important numismatic auctions of all time – certainly in terms of prices realized, but more importantly for the sheer scope, completeness, and extraordinary quality of the coins presented.

We accept bids through HA.com, mail, fax, and e-mail before the event. Real-time remote bidding is available over the telephone and on our award-winning online system, HERITAGE Live!®. If you are attending the preview and/or auction in New York, you are invited to stop by our office where it would be our pleasure to personally welcome you. Todd Imhof and all of the numismatists at Heritage Auctions headquarters in Dallas are also at your disposal to assist you with this exciting finale of the Gardner Collection sale.

I would like to add my personal thanks to Anne and Gene Gardner, and their children Eugene and Victoria, for their confidence and trust in Heritage to present this incredible collection, which would be virtually impossible to replicate today. I met Gene 28 years ago, and when Tony Terranova introduced us he whispered in my ear "Gene Gardner is the finest gentleman in numismatics. He's royalty." I know Gene is blushing reading this as he's also extremely modest, but Tony was right. Working with Gene and his family, and this collection, has been the most enjoyable experience I have had in my four decades as a numismatist.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge Mark Borckardt, my "partner" in the Gardner Collection auctions. Mark's attention to the research, cataloging, and awareness of every little detail in the presentation of these magnificent coins was invaluable. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Greg Rohan
President
HERITAGE AUCTIONS

Session One

The Eugene H. Gardner Collection, Part IV

HALF CENTS

1808 Normal Date Half Cent
C-3, B-3, Uncirculated Sharpness



98001 1808 C-3, B-3, R.1 — Environmental Damage — NGC Details. **Unc.** Our EAC Grade XF45. Despite the NGC description, this is an attractive and entirely acceptable 1808 half cent with traces of red on the chestnut and steel-brown surfaces. A few trivial marks are noted on Liberty's bust and elsewhere.

Variety: C-3, B-3. The Normal Date variety with the final 8 created with overlapping circles from the 0 punch used for the fraction. Manley Die State 5.0; the latest state he records is equal to Breen Die State VII.

Heritage Commentary: Several die states are recorded for the 1808 half cents. Early and late die states are scarce, while middle die states are common.

Provenance: *Stack's* (1/1997), lot 404.

1833 C-1, B-1 Half Cent, MS64 Brown



98002 1833 C-1, B-1, R.1, MS64 Brown NGC. CAC. Our EAC Grade MS63. This example displays considerable original mint red, with bluish olive-brown toning. Small spots below the date and at the right obverse border prevent a higher grade, but the green CAC sticker indicates their approval of the grade.

Variety: C-1, B-1, R.1. Manley Die State 2.0, the usual die state for 1833 half cents.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports 83 in MS64 Brown (one MS64+) and 49 in higher grades.

Heritage Commentary: A single pair of dies was used for proof and business strike half cents, rendering differentiation extremely difficult.

Provenance: *Queller Sale* (*Stack's*, 3/1997), lot 15, where this coin was described as "very close to gem status." NGC ID# 222Z, PCGS# 35282 Base PCGS# 1162

PROOF BRAIDED HAIR HALF CENTS

1846 B-3 Second Restrike Half Cent
Early Die State, PR66 Brown



98003 1846 Second Restrike PR66 Brown PCGS. CAC. B-3, R.6.

Our EAC Grade PR64. A band of die striae on the obverse extends from stars 5 and 6, through the head, to stars 10 and 11, and on to the border. This Premium Gem proof is an earlier die state and finer grade than either of the Missouri Cabinet coins. The surfaces are nicely mirrored, and the devices are boldly defined. Both sides exhibit lovely tan and olive-brown color with blue and violet overtones. Traces of original mint red appear on the reverse.

Variety: Breen-3. This early die state piece is equal to Breen's Series IV, with just two examples known to him, both in private collections. The obverse die striae quickly fade and disappear in later die states but are clearly visible on this example. Similarly, a heavy die scratch extends left from the upper half of the neck, visible on earlier uses of the obverse die and rarely seen on the Second Restrikes.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS and NGC population data provides little help regarding the proof half cents, as they only recognize Original and Restrike varieties, without differentiating between First and Second Restrikes. However, each service has graded three PR66 Brown 1846 Restrike half cents, with none equal or finer in any color designation.

Heritage Commentary: Richard Coleman lists five examples of his Group II (early die state) and 13 examples of Group III (late die state). This piece is the finest of the five Group II coins.

Provenance: C.A. Allenburger (B. Max Mehl, 3/1948), lot 1055; Martin F. Kortjohn (Stack's, 10/1979), lot 586; Stanley Kesselman; R.E. Naftzger, Jr.; Auction '81 (Stack's, 7/1981), lot 1504; R.E. Naftzger, Jr.; purchased from Richard T. Coleman, Jr. (3/2000). NGC ID# 26ZF, PCGS# 1287

1852 B-2 Half Cent, PR65 Brown
First Restrike



98004 1852 First Restrike, Small Berries, B-2, R.4, PR65 Brown PCGS. Housed in a green-label holder, this piece displays rich walnut-brown surfaces. A bold strike and moderately mirrored surfaces appear on both sides, complementing faint bluish-steel overtones on the obverse.

Variety: B-2, R.4. This First Restrike variety shows a doubled T in CENT.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports seven in PR65 Brown and three finer within the color designation. There are also five in PR65 Red and Brown, one in PR65 Red, and two in PR66 Red and Brown.

Heritage Commentary: The First Restrike is a plentiful 1852 variety with nearly 100 proofs known. In comparison, Originals and Second Restrikes are important rarities.

Provenance: Bowers and Merena (7/1997), lot 11. NGC ID# 26ZS, PCGS# 1317

1855 C-1, B-1 Half Cent
PR65 Red and Brown



98005 1855 PR65 Red and Brown NGC. C-1, B-1, R.5 as a Proof. Our EAC grade PR63. This splendid Gem proof shows mostly light orange surfaces with some blue-brown patina on the devices and rims. Both sides are well-preserved with only a few tiny spots. The fields are deeply mirrored with hints of satin luster on the devices. The obverse displays a couple of noticeable lint marks.

Population Data (8/15): NGC has certified two examples in PR65 Red and Brown and one in PR66 Brown. That service has never certified an example with the Red designation.

Heritage Commentary: Perhaps 40 to 50 proof 1855 half cents are known in all grades from an unknown production quantity. NGC and PCGS have certified a total of 42 examples in all grades, including resubmissions.

Provenance: *Houston Signature* (Heritage, 12/2008), lot 34; *Greensboro Collection, Part VI* (Heritage, 2/2014), lot 5001. NGC ID# 26ZW, PCGS# 1327

LARGE CENTS

1812 S-288, B-3 Cent, MS65 Brown
High Condition Census



98006 1812 Large Date, S-288, B-3, R.2, MS65 Brown NGC. CAC. Our EAC Grade MS62. An impressive example with bold details, this sharply struck cent exhibits frosty olive-brown luster and splashes of tan in the protected areas.

Variety: S-288, B-3. The four varieties of 1812 cents are each rated R.1 or R.2, meaning none are difficult to locate. However, Mint State examples are scarce. Breen Die State III.

Population Data (8/15): For all 1812 varieties NGC reports this example in MS65 Brown, two in MS65 Red and Brown, and one each in MS66 Brown and MS66 Red and Brown.

Heritage Commentary: Del Bland records this cent as third finest in his Census, tied with one similar example. Bill Noyes favors this piece and lists it as tied for finest known.

Provenance: Alan Weinberg; Gene Reale (Sotheby's, 1/1998), lot 51. NGC ID# 224W, PCGS# 36505 Base PCGS# 1564

1813 S-293, B-1 Cent, AU Details



98007 1813 S-293, B-1, R.2 — Environmental Damage — NGC Details. AU. Our EAC Grade VF35. Dark and granular surfaces are typical of 1813 large cents. A weak strike is evident at the upper obverse and lower reverse.

Variety: S-293, B-1. The large cents dated 1813 are slightly scarcer than those of adjacent years, but all Classic Head cents are popular, especially those from the War of 1812 (which actually lasted from 1812 to 1815). The Classic Head cents that overlap that era are the 1812, 1813, and 1814 issues. No cents were struck in 1815.

Heritage Commentary: Early die states of this variety in high grade will show traces of an 1813 over 12 overdate, although the variety is rarely categorized in that way.

1813 S-293, B-1 Cent, MS63 Brown
Condition Census



98008 1813 S-293, B-1, R.2, MS63 Brown NGC. Our EAC Grade AU55. Both sides of this splendid cent exhibit frosty mint luster and sharp design definition. The obverse is lovely golden-brown and the reverse is steel-brown. Tinges of blue-green patina add to the eye appeal of this impressive piece.

Variety: S-293, R.1. Two varieties are known for 1813, both about equal in rarity. Breen Die State III or later.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports nine examples in MS63 Brown and one finer.

Heritage Commentary: This example certainly ranks in the Condition Census for the variety, although its exact position is uncertain.

Provenance: *Stack's Bowers (1/2012)*, lot 8087. NGC ID# 224X, PCGS# 36514 Base PCGS# 1570

1822 N-1 Cent, MS63 Brown
Ex: Robison Collection



98009 1822 N-1, R.3, MS63 Brown PCGS. Our EAC Grade AU50. Housed in a green-label PCGS holder, this scarce cent has golden-brown surfaces with splashes of steel-brown patina and minor corrosion at the central reverse. Traces of tan appear on the reverse, faded from original mint red. The strike is imperfectly centered.

Variety: N-1, R.3. A scarce variety that is usually found in lower grades.

Population Data (8/15): For the date 1822, PCGS reports seven in MS63 Brown and eight finer.

Heritage Commentary: This pleasing piece ranks among the top 20 for the variety.

Provenance: Robison Collection (*Stack's*, 2/1982), lot 473 as AU55; *Bowers and Merena* (6/1996), lot 138. NGC ID# 2259, PCGS# 36712 Base PCGS# 1624

1823 N-2 Cent, AU Details
Normal Date, Early Die State



98010 1823 N-2, R.2 — Corrosion — NGC Details. AU. Our EAC Grade VF20. The deep olive surfaces of this example are moderately corroded, although the details are sharper than usually encountered for the date.

Variety: N-2, R.2. An early die state with the dentils at the upper-left obverse just beginning to fuse.

Heritage Commentary: The key date to the Coronet series of large cents struck from 1816 to 1839. The two varieties are usually found in low grades with considerable wear. Despite the surface challenges, this is an exceptional example that will please nearly any collector.

Provenance: *Stack's* (9/1997), lot 350 as MS60.

1833 N-6 Cent, MS65 Red and Brown
Condition Census



98011 1833 N-6, R.1, MS65 Red and Brown NGC. Our EAC Grade MS63. A lovely Condition Census example, this cent displays substantial light orange mint color with hints of blue toning on its chocolate-brown surfaces. Both sides exhibit strong detail and excellent centering with full borders.

Variety: N-6, R.1. The obverse is perfect while the reverse exhibits extensive peripheral die cracks through the legends.

Population Data (8/15): For all varieties, NGC reports seven examples in MS65 Red and Brown and three finer. That service has never graded a full Red 1833 cent.

Heritage Commentary: Bill Noyes grades this example MS63 and records it as fifth finest in his census.

Provenance: F.Y. Parker Collection (Thomas Elder, 4/1935), lot 1885; Judge Thomas Gaskill; Dorothy Paschal; New Netherlands (12/1957), lot 1546; Dr. James O. Sloss (Abe Kosoff, 10/1959), lot 186; Willard C. Blaisdell (1975); R.E. Naftzger; Denis W. Loring; Herman Halpern (Stack's, 3/1988), lot 437; purchased from Harry Laibstain (11/2007). PCGS# 37034

1835 N-15 Cent, MS64 Brown
Condition Census



98012 1835 Head of 1836, N-15, R.2, MS64 Brown PCGS. Our EAC Grade MS60. Both sides of this splendid cent exhibit frosty mint luster on olive-brown surfaces with iridescent toning. A trivial mark on the cheek and a small spot at the obverse border at 11 o'clock are the only distractions.

Variety: N-15, R.2. Head style of 1836. Late die state.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS data show 17 examples of this head style in MS64 Brown, with six finer in that color designation.

Heritage Commentary: Bill Noyes grades this piece AU55 and tied for eighth finest known. We agree with Bob Grellman's grade of MS60 in the Naftzger catalog.

Provenance: F.C.C. Boyd; New Netherlands (12/1957), lot 1569; Emanuel Taylor (10/1960); R.E. Naftzger, Jr. (Goldberg Coins, 2/2009), lot 342; purchased from Chris Victor-McCawley (3/2011). PCGS# 37066 Base PCGS# 1714

1846 N-6 Cent, MS66 Brown
Small Date



98013 1846 Small Date, N-6, R.1, MS66 Brown NGC. Our EAC Grade MS63. Although designated brown, this lovely Premium Gem exhibits noticeable orange mint color, especially on the obverse. Both sides are predominantly olive-brown with hints of pale blue overtones. The surfaces are exceptional, with a single dull spot at the O in ONE.

Variety: N-6 is a frequently encountered example of the Small Date type. Grellman Die State c, the late state of the dies with faint repunching under the 4. The recut 6 is still clear.

Population Data (8/15): For all 1846 varieties, NGC has seen four in MS66 Brown with three finer.

Heritage Commentary: This lovely example is nearly equal to the Dan Holmes coin, which Bob Grellman calls fourth finest known.

Provenance: Purchased from Harry Laibstain (3/10/2005). NGC ID# 226C, PCGS# 403868 Base PCGS# 1865

1850 N-7 Cent, MS66 Red and Brown
Late Die State



98014 1850 N-7, R.2, MS66 Red and Brown NGC. CAC. The obverse is lustrous with brilliant orange mint color. The reverse is similarly brilliant aside from a hint of olive-brown patina at the center, preventing a Red designation for this Premium Gem cent. A lovely example with excellent eye appeal.

Variety: N-7, R.2. Grellman Die State b with flowlined fields.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports 23 in MS66 Red and Brown, two in MS66 Red, and two others in MS67 Red and Brown.

Heritage Commentary: A large hoard of these late die state pieces ensures a sufficient supply to meet the demands of variety specialists, date collectors, and type coin aficionados.

Provenance: Heritage (8/2001), lot 3029. NGC ID# 226G, PCGS# 405881 Base PCGS# 1890

PROOF LARGE CENTS

1847 N-42 Cent, PR64 Brown Proof-Only Variety



98015 1847 PR64 Brown PCGS. CAC. N-42, R.6+. Our EAC Grade PR63. This is an attractive near-Gem proof that offers diffuse reflectivity on medium-brown fields touched in heather, violet, and blue. A few features are slightly soft, such as the hair over Liberty's ear and a couple of inner berries, but the proof intent is clear. Housed in a first-generation holder.

Variety: N-42, R.6+. A proof-only variety. The N-42 is recognized easily by the die scratch along the left reverse rim, above the TED in UNITED.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS has certified eight proof 1847 cents in all grades. The population includes one each in PR63 Red and Brown, PR64 Brown, PR65 Brown, PR65 Red and Brown, and PR65+ Red and Brown, and three in PR64 Red and Brown,

Heritage Commentary: The N-42 is the only die variety of the year known in proof format; while Newcomb described coins from other die pairs as proofs, today's scholarship recognizes the N-42 only.

Provenance: ANA Signature (Heritage, 8/2010), lot 3032. NGC ID# 272R, PCGS# 1970

1849 N-18 Cent, PR62 Red and Brown Proof-Only Variety



98016 1849 PR62 Red and Brown PCGS. CAC. N-18, R.6. Our EAC Grade PR62. The lower obverse and most of the reverse exhibit bluish-steel toning with splashes of original orange mint color at the upper obverse. Faint hairlines at the lower right obverse prevent a higher grade. A dark toning spot appears at the obverse border above star 5.

Variety: N-18, R.6. A proof-only variety that features the shared reverse die of several proof large cents struck in the 1840s.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS has certified 17 proof 1849 large cents including this example, one of 10 with the Red and Brown designation.

Heritage Commentary: Denis Loring records just over one dozen proofs of this variety in his Census. This piece is tied for eighth place in his record. The Rasmussen cataloger noted that this piece was removed from a PR64 PCGS Red and Brown holder.

Provenance: Stuart Levine; Denis Loring (1991); Robinson S. Brown, Jr. (1993); Wes Rasmussen (Superior, 2/1998), lot 273. NGC ID# 226Y, PCGS# 1977

1856 N-5 Cent, PR64 Brown
Proof-Only Variety



98017 1856 N-5, R.5, PR64 Brown PCGS. Housed in a green-label PCGS holder, this splendid proof has a bold strike with mirrored fields. The steel-blue surfaces show tinges of orange mint color on the obverse.

Variety: N-5, R.5. A proof-only variety.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 36 proof 1856 large cents, including five each in PR64 Brown and PR65 Brown. The others include 18 examples in PR64 Red and Brown or finer.

Heritage Commentary: The last three years of proof large cents, 1855 to 1857, are encountered far more frequently than earlier years. However, they are hardly common. Denis Loring records about 40 proof 1855 cents, about the same number of proof 1856 cents, and about 75 proof 1857 large cents.

Provenance: ANA Convention Sale (Conn and Whiteneck, 8/1960), lot 2093; Pennsylvania Cabinet (Bowers and Merena, 11/1997), lot 133. NGC ID# 2274, PCGS# 1997

FLYING EAGLE CENT

1857 Flying Eagle Cent, Attractive MS65



98018 1857 MS65 PCGS. Attractive almond-tan surfaces are far better-preserved than usually seen on this second-year type coin (and the first year available to most collectors). The surfaces are free of major marks and, for the most part, sharply struck up; the sole exception is ATES OF AM in the obverse legend. Certified in a PCGS green-label holder.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS has certified only 18 submissions finer than the present Gem example, all of them at the MS66 level.

Heritage Commentary: Several major varieties of 1857 Flying Eagle cents are found, the most notorious the stranger-than-fiction 1857 cent errors (or fabrications?) showing reverse die clashes with other denominations — Seated quarters, Seated halves, and Liberty Head double eagles. Also known are repunched dates and doubled dies. But even nonvariety coins are the subject of unceasing demand from type collectors; the most recent example in this exact grade and service that we offered, in April 2015, brought \$3,878. NGC ID# 2276, PCGS# 2016

INDIAN CENTS

1870 Indian Cent, MS66 Red and Brown
Lone Example So Graded With CAC



98019 1870 MS66 Red and Brown PCGS. CAC. This sharply struck and nicely preserved Premium Gem Red and Brown 1870 cent boasts prevailing mint orange color amid great eye appeal, certified in a PCGS green-label holder with the CAC green approval sticker.

Variety: Minor repunching shows on 18 in the date, but we cannot match this to any obvious variety in Snow's recently released revision to his series reference.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS shows four submitted in this grade. This is the sole example so graded with the CAC green approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: It pays to examine all 1870 Indian cents, as the date is rife with a wide "variety" of interesting doubled and tripled dies on both obverses and reverses, several "Pick-Axe" pairings, as well as misplaced digits and Bold N Reverse types.

Provenance: *Herbert D. Spencer Sale (Bowers and Merena 6/1996), lot 183. NGC ID# 227U, PCGS# 2098*

1873 Open 3 Cent, MS65 Red
Extremely Rare in Better Condition



98020 1873 Open 3 MS65 Red PCGS. Eagle Eye Photo Seal. The surfaces show light golden-amber color over each side and are lacking in any noticeable abrasions. Sharply struck throughout with strong definition on the feather tips and the shield.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS counts 25 MS65 Red examples and five finer submissions, while NGC reports a mere five Red Gems and a single coin finer.

Heritage Commentary: This is the more frequently encountered of the two date variants of the year. In all, more than 11.6 million cents were minted in 1873. Still, Open 3 examples are extremely rare above the Gem grade level with original red coloration.

Provenance: *Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 6/2002), lot 5078; Central States Signature (Heritage, 5/2003), lot 5150; FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2007), lot 509; Boston Rarities Sale (Bowers and Merena, 8/2010), lot 123. NGC ID# 227Y, PCGS# 2108*

1874 Cent, Condition Rarity MS65 Red
Exceptional Quality and Color



98021 1874 MS65 Red PCGS. CAC. The headdress shows pinpoint strike detail, and each side displays even orange-red color unaffected by mellowing or browning. This Gem is an outstanding example of this conditionally rare Indian cent issue.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 35 in MS65 Red and nine finer. NGC shows 19 in this grade and three finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1874 Indian cent, struck in the amount of 14.1 million coins, is often seen well-struck but with streaky woodgrain toning, resulting from higher concentrations of tin and zinc mixed into the copper alloy. Consequently, Red representatives prove significantly more elusive than Red and Brown examples.

Provenance: FUN Signature (*Heritage*, 1/2003), lot 5338; Central States Signature (*Heritage*, 4-5/2009), lot 1122; purchased from Bill Nagle (5/2009). NGC ID# 227Z, PCGS# 2120

1888 Cent, Boldly Struck MS65 Red
Intense Cherry-Red Coloration



98022 1888 MS65 Red PCGS. Intense cherry-red coloration is the stand-out feature of this boldly struck Gem. Splashes of pale blue appear within the hidden areas on each side. The reverse exhibits die clash marks above the O in ONE, through the C in CENT, and near the right wreath elements. Light chatter in the left obverse field limits the grade, and a tiny carbon speck occurs above (UNI)T(ED).

Population Data (8/15): PCGS shows 31 coins in MS65 Red with 15 finer. NGC reports 18 in this grade and three finer.

Heritage Commentary: Rick Snow writes that 182 obverse dies were used to coin nearly 37.5 million Indian Head cents in 1888, creating a large field of study for serious students of this popular series.

Provenance: Baltimore Auction (*Bowers and Merena*, 11/2007), lot 398. NGC ID# 228G, PCGS# 2168

1896 Indian Cent, MS66 Red
Marvelous Eye Appeal, Condition Rarity



98023 1896 MS66 Red PCGS. CAC. The carefully preserved surfaces of this Premium Gem Red cent remain vivid with glints of lemon-gold against the dominant copper-orange hues. Well-struck with only a touch of softness over the high points and marvelous eye appeal. Housed in a green label holder.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 17 MS66 Red grading events (one MS66+) and NGC six in the same grade, with two finer at each service. This is among seven in this grade with CAC approval, and one is finer.

Heritage Commentary: From a mintage approaching 40 million coins, the 1896 is an available date through most grade levels and across all color designations. Only in this high grade with full mint red color can the issue be considered rare. Given the dearth of higher-graded examples, this is likely the finest representative most series specialists or Registry collectors can hope to procure.

Provenance: ANA Signature (Heritage, 8/2007), lot 158; Boston Rarities Sale (Bowers and Merena, 8/2010), lot 126. NGC ID# 228R, PCGS# 2195

1909-S Indian Cent, MS65 Red
Capstone Date in the Series



98024 1909-S MS65 Red PCGS. CAC. Eagle Eye Photo Seal. This lustrous golden-orange Gem displays phenomenally smooth surfaces and exemplary eye appeal. Four diamonds appear on Liberty's ribbon, though the feather tips show a trace of strike softness. Inarguably high-end for the grade.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS and NGC respectively report 21 and seven finer Red representatives. This is one of 24 in this grade with CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1909-S Indian cent (only 309,000 coins struck) has a certified population far smaller at the Gem Red level than the 1909-S VDB Lincoln cent, which was both saved and hoarded in plentiful numbers at the time of its issue. Examples of this capstone date are seldom seen this well-preserved, and finer coins are important condition rarities.

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2010), lot 243; Baltimore Auction (Bowers and Merena, 3/2010), lot 305. NGC ID# 2298, PCGS# 2240

PROOF INDIAN CENTS

1859 Indian Cent, PR65 Pleasingly Toned, Partly Contrasted



98025 1859 PR65 PCGS. A coat of gunmetal-blue patina lies over the minimally contrasted obverse of this lovely Gem proof. Conversely, the reverse features partial contrast between the frosted devices and glassy fields. Copper-gold and golden-brown toning dominates that side with occasional reddish-violet and steel-blue elements. A handful of stray contact marks are of no consequence.

Population Data (8/15): There are 23 finer submissions at PCGS and 21 at NGC.

Heritage Commentary: The Mint reportedly coined 800 proof cents for the introduction of James B. Longacre's new Indian Head design. While the obverse portrait was well-received, Treasury Secretary Howell Cobb received a letter from Mint Director James Ross Snowden dated December 13, 1859, as cited by Snow: "A modification of the devices on the reverse of the cent is desirable." In 1860, an oak wreath replaced the laurel wreath, and a shield was added above, making the 1859 a popular one-year type.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (2/2008). NGC ID# 2299, PCGS# 2247

1859 Indian Cent, Premium Gem Proof Introductory Issue and Single-Year Type



98026 1859 PR66 NGC. Golden-olive and bronze patina colors the obverse. The reverse features a wonderful array of hues, including orange, magenta, blue, and gold. As expected, the devices are fully struck. The fields show deep mirroring, though cameo contrast is minimal. Housed in a prior generation holder.

Population Data (8/15): NGC and PCGS report 19 (one PR66 ★) and 22 Premium Gem proofs respectively, with two finer at NGC and one finer at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: The 1859 proof Indian cent offers numerous desirable qualities that collectors eagerly seek. It is the first date in the Indian Head series and a single-year type (the laurel wreath was changed to oak in 1860). The issue has a limited production estimated at 800 specimens, and Rick Snow believes "no more than half the mintage was sold." The issue is also from the earliest period of proofs marketed to the general public.

Provenance: *Rarities Sale (Bowers and Merena, 7/1997), lot 28.* NGC ID# 2299, PCGS# 2247

1866 Cent, PR66 Red
Tied for Finest Certified



98027 1866 PR66 Red NGC. CAC. Light copper-orange patina graces the obverse, showing glimpses of rose. The devices, though minimally frosted, nevertheless stand out against watery, unmarked fields. The reverse is even more colorful, showing pumpkin-gold hues, a brilliant appearance, and equally bold eye appeal. Encapsulated in a former generation holder with CAC approval.

Population Data (8/15): NGC and PCGS in that order report three and four submissions in PR66 Red with none finer at either service.

Heritage Commentary: Only one die pair was needed to strike 725 proof cents in 1866. Snow comments that the obverse "always has roughness on the portrait" because of die rust, but that is hardly apparent on this Premium Gem. The vast majority of representatives grade PR63 to PR65 with Red and Brown surfaces. The 1866 is both a color and condition rarity; Red examples are rarely seen, as are Premium Gems. This combination of grade and color merits a premium bid.

Provenance: *Purchased directly from Stack's (6/1995).* NGC ID# 229J, PCGS# 2287

1876 Cent, PR66 Red and Brown
An Exceptional Example



98028 1876 PR66 Red and Brown NGC. CAC. Snow-PR1. The surfaces exhibit areas of light pumpkin-orange and steel-blue toning amid bronze-gold patina overall. Frosty devices are set against deeply mirrored fields (unusual for the issue), generating marked, though unacknowledged cameo contrast — especially on the reverse. Housed in a prior generation holder with a green approval sticker from CAC.

Variety: Snow-PR1, with a die chip on the neck just below the jaw. First used in 1872, this die pair is of the highest quality compared to the two other proof die pairs employed in 1876.

Population Data (8/15): NGC and PCGS each show 14 PR66 Red and Brown submissions (one in PR66 ★ at NGC). NGC shows four finer.

Heritage Commentary: Most 1876 proof Indian Head cents, of which 1,150 were struck, are of "average quality," according to Rick Snow. He adds, "Wonderful examples do exist but these are the exception." This amazing Premium Gem clearly falls into the latter category.

Provenance: *Seymour Finkelstein Collection (Stack's, 10/1995), lot 66.* NGC ID# 229V, PCGS# 2316

**1877 Cent, PR65 Red and Brown
Alternative to the Business Strike**



98029 1877 PR65 Red and Brown NGC. Orange-gold luster shows through the veneer of tan patination on this Gem proof, the latter being slightly deeper on the reverse. The design features are well-struck, though a couple of the diamonds are softly impressed, as are the tips of three feathers. Neither side reveals mentionable contact marks or carbon spots.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports 71 submissions in PR65 (one PR65+) Red and Brown and 19 finer. PCGS shows 74 in PR65 Red and Brown and six finer.

Heritage Commentary: The actual number of 1877 cents manufactured in proof format is unknown. Walter Breen's 1989 proof *Encyclopedia* gives a figure of 510+ pieces. Julian (1992) revised this estimate to 900 coins. Bowers (1996) estimates 1,250 to 1,500 examples. Snow (2009) estimates 900+ specimens. The 2016 *Red Book* suggests 900 examples.

Irrespective of the number of 1877 cents produced in proof finish, this issue is highly important in the Indian Head series because date collectors will often substitute it for higher-priced Uncirculated business strike examples. That said, the 1877 proof still commands a higher price than other proofs in the series (with the exception of the very rare 1864 With L). The current Gem will be an excellent addition to a high-grade Indian cent collection. NGC ID# 229W, PCGS# 2319

**1885 Cent, PR66 Red and Brown
Remarkably Smooth Surfaces**



98030 1885 PR66 Red and Brown NGC. CAC. Soft orange-gold luster resides beneath a veneer of olive-tan patination slightly darker on the reverse. The design elements are well-defined, including the diamonds and leaves on the wreath, though the Indian's hair is a tad soft in places. The surfaces on both sides are remarkably smooth and devoid of carbon spots or mentionable contact marks. The pleasing eye appeal is appropriately recognized by CAC.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports 52 in PR66 Red and Brown and 11 finer. PCGS shows 47 in this grade and 24 finer.

Heritage Commentary: This issue claims a production of 3,790 pieces. Higher-grade 1885 proof cents are desirable among date collectors, as comparable circulation-strike examples are elusive. In fact Bowers (1996), in discussing the availability of the 1885 cent in Mint State, writes that it is the "scarcest business strike of the 1880s." The present Premium Gem offering provides an excellent opportunity for the Indian Head cent specialist building a date collection. NGC ID# 22A6, PCGS# 2343

1886 Type Two Cent, PR65 Red and Brown
Elusive at This Level of Preservation



98031 1886 Type Two PR65 Red and Brown PCGS. CAC. The Indian's portrait is primarily light yellow-gold and stands out against the soft golden-tan fields. A similar color pattern is visible on the reverse, where the light yellow-gold wreath is imbued with whispers of mint-green and, toward the bottom, reddish-tan shades, again highlighted against the golden-tan fields. The reverse, however, exhibits slightly darker hues overall. Well-struck design features occur over both sides. A small mark on the Indian's cheek just above the jawline and another on the eyebrow will help to identify the coin, as will five or six spots below the letters AMERI and one embedded in the feathers above the T in LIBERTY.

Variety: On Type Two 1886 Indian Head cents the last feather of the headdress points between the C and the A in AMERICA. On Type One, the last feather points between I and C.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 14 examples in PR65 Red and Brown and three finer. NGC shows four coins in PR65 Red and Brown and two finer. The population figures show the Type Two cent to be less available in all three color designations than its Type One counterpart.

Heritage Commentary: The reported mintage of Types One and Two cents combined is 4,290 pieces. Snow (2009) estimates the Type Two production to be 1,750 coins. He states that: "The 1886 Type II Proof is prohibitively rare in full red Gem condition. Cameo examples are nearly impossible to find." The present Gem Red and Brown offering is highly elusive and extremely rare any finer.

Provenance: Purchased from Bill Nagle (6/2009). NGC ID# 22A8, PCGS# 92346

PROOF TWO CENT PIECES

1865 Two Cent, PR66 Red and Brown
One of the Finest Examples at PCGS



98032 1865 PR66 Red and Brown PCGS. Violet, rose, and pumpkin-gold hues complement copper-brown color overall. Partly reflective surfaces feature razor-sharp definition on the olive leaves, shield lines, and the wreath elements, as one would expect of a proof strike. Each side is free from any mentionable contact marks with mild carbon on the reverse.

Variety: Plain 5, as seen on all proofs. Business strikes are also known with the Fancy 5.

Population Data (8/15): The 16 PR66 Red and Brown coins at PCGS are tied for finest at that service. NGC reports nine Premium Gem Red and Brown proofs with two submissions finer.

Heritage Commentary: All of the reported 500 proofs struck in 1865 show a Plain 5 in the date. Most surviving examples are certified in the Red and Brown category, and the average grade among certified representatives falls between PR64 and PR65. Comparable Premium Gems are very rare. The Bowers and Merena cataloger wrote of this piece in 1997: "A splendid gem Proof of absolutely superb quality, one of the very finest seen. In fact, we do not recall ever having seen a nicer one!"

Provenance: Pennsylvania Cabinet (Bowers and Merena, 11/1997), lot 211. NGC ID# 274U, PCGS# 3628

1871 Two Cent, PR67 Red and Brown
Sole Finest at Both Services



98033 1871 PR67 Red and Brown NGC. A gorgeous Superb Gem with blended shades of salmon-pink, violet, and lilac. Flashy and impeccably preserved. TRUST is widely die doubled, characteristic of the entire proof issue, although not diagnostic since the obverse die was also used to produce business strikes.

Population Data (8/15): This Superb Gem proof is the sole finest Red and Brown example at either leading certification service.

Heritage Commentary: The 1871 has the second-highest proof mintage in the short-lived two cent series after the 1870. The Mint manufactured an estimated 960 proofs, of which this is one of the finest survivors. Destined for a top-notch Registry Set.

Provenance: ANA Signature (Heritage, 7/2005), lot 5402. NGC ID# 22NH, PCGS# 3646

1872 Two Cent, PR65 Red and Brown
Low Total-Mintage Issue



98034 1872 PR65 Red and Brown PCGS. CAC. A generous amount of fiery red color graces each side of this marvelous Gem proof, intermixed with hues of amber-gold, violet, and lavender. Close inspection reveals a few small ticks adjacent to the lower-left olive leaves, and between the fourth and fifth verticals in the shield. The reverse is comparatively clean. Fully defined with moderate reflectivity and fantastic visual appeal. Housed in a green label holder.

Population Data (8/15): There are only 23 Red and Brown examples higher at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: The 1872 proof two cent issue claims one of the more plentiful mintages in the series with a reported production of 950 pieces. However, the small circulation-strike total of 65,000 coins places added pressure on proofs, as high-grade circulation strikes are difficult to come by.

Provenance: Rarities Sale (Bowers and Merena, 8/1996), lot 43. NGC ID# 2752, PCGS# 3649

1872 Two Cent, PR66 Red and Brown
Useful as a Business Strike Alternative



98035 1872 PR66 Red and Brown NGC. CAC. This Premium Gem Red and Brown proof displays considerable orange-gold luster along with tan patination on the obverse. The reverse shows deeper bluish-tan toning, especially in the central area. The design features are uniformly well-struck, and neither side reveals mentionable contact marks or spots.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports 38 in PR66 Red and Brown and five pieces finer, with 22 at PCGS and one finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1872 proof two cent piece has an estimated mintage of 950+ coins, according to the 2016 *Guide Book*. This is the third lowest estimated two cent proof production, trailing only that of the 1864 Small and Large Motto and the 1873 Close and Open 3. The scarcity of high-grade 1872 circulation strikes puts extra pressure on the proof from date collectors. NGC ID# 2752, PCGS# 3649

1872 Two Cent, PR67 ★ Red and Brown
Key Date Alternative, Tied for Finest



98036 1872 PR67 ★ Red and Brown NGC. This Superb Gem Red and Brown proof displays lovely reddish-orange, lilac, and violet coloration. The surfaces are seemingly immaculate, save for a few trivial carbon flecks. The strong eye appeal is recognized by NGC's Star designation.

Population Data (8/15): Five PR67 Red and Brown submissions are tied for finest at NGC, but this is the only one with a Star designation. PCGS shows a single PR67 Red and Brown with none finer.

Heritage Commentary: Just 65,000 two cent business strikes were coined in 1872. Mint State examples are rare, and many collectors instead choose to represent the date with a high-grade proof. The *Guide Book* reports a mintage of 950 pieces, but the exact figure is unknown.

Provenance: *Portland Signature* (Heritage, 3/2004), lot 5300. NGC ID# 2752, PCGS# 3649

THREE CENT SILVER

1851 Three Cent Silver, MS64 Prooflike
Sole Prooflike Example Certified
From the Garrett Collection



98037 1851 MS64 Prooflike NGC. Ex: Garrett. The light reddish-gold surfaces of this near-Gem Prooflike example exhibit well-struck design elements, including uniformly strong detail in the lines of the obverse shield. Some of the reverse stars show weakness in the centers. Scattered toning spots appear over both sides, larger on the reverse.

Population Data (9/15): This near-Gem is sole example of this issue designated as Prooflike.

Heritage Commentary: While NGC assigns this coin MS64 Prooflike, it was designated "Choice Proof" in the October 1980 sale of the Garrett Collection by Bowers and Ruddy. Breen, in his *Encyclopedia of United States and Colonial Proof Coins*, writes of the 1851 three cent silver piece that: "a small number of Proofs were struck on June 30, 1851, the effective date of the legislative act which authorized this denomination." The Bowers and Ruddy catalog, in referring to the Maris coin that Breen considered to be a proof, states: "three unquestioned Proofs are known to exist today, certainly placing it in the forefront of American rarities of this type of manufacture." We do not consider the present offering to be a proof, but we agree with the Prooflike designation.

Provenance: Obtained by T. Harrison Garrett from the 1886 sale of the Maris Collection held in Philadelphia by Stan V. Henkels; Garrett Collection Part III (Bowers and Ruddy, 10/1980), lot 1549; purchased from Stack's (5/1995), lot 48. NGC ID# 22YX, PCGS# 3664

1851-O Three Cent Silver, Lustrous MS64
The Only Branch-Mint Issue



98038 1851-O MS64 PCGS. CAC. Ex: Garrett. The lustrous surfaces of this near-Gem display grayish patina imbued with speckles of russet and olive that are larger and more extensive on the obverse. The design elements are uniformly well-struck and both sides have been well-cared for. The CAC endorsement affirms the coin's pleasing eye appeal.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 79 pieces finer than near-Gem, and NGC shows 68 finer. CAC has given the green approval sticker to 11 in this grade.

Heritage Commentary: This is the first year in which the silver three cent coin was produced. The 1851 to 1853 issues (Type One) had a composition of 75 percent silver and 25 percent copper. The 1851-O is significant as the only branch-mint issue in the series.

Provenance: Obtained by John Work Garrett from William Hesslein (12/1919); Garrett Collection (Bowers and Ruddy (10/1980), lot 1550; Stack's (5/1995), lot 49. NGC ID# 22YY, PCGS# 3665

1851-O Three Cent Silver, Elusive MS66
Seldom Offered Finer



98039 1851-O MS66 ANACS. A melange of light gray, sky-blue, crimson, and reddish-gold patination resides on the lustrous surfaces of this Premium Gem three cent silver. The design features are well-struck, including the star centers. Only the shield center exhibits a touch of softness, a typical characteristic of the issue. Close inspection reveals impeccably preserved surfaces. A minuscule mark to the upper right of the middle stand of the III in the denomination is noted solely for identification purposes.

Population Data (8/15): While the present coin resides in a first generation ANACS cache holder (which is very scarce), we cite population data from PCGS and NGC to give the reader a general idea of the rarity of the issue. The latter two services combined report 44 examples in Premium Gem (a number of which are likely resubmissions) and only three coins finer.

Heritage Commentary: The New Orleans Mint struck 720,000 pieces of the three cent silver denomination in 1851, the only branch-mint issue in the series. The 1851-O can be located through near-Gem without too much difficulty. Premium Gems such as the current offering are elusive, however, and higher-grade examples are virtually unobtainable. This is an infrequent opportunity for the silver three cent specialist to acquire the finest-grade 1851-O that is likely to be encountered.

Provenance: *Bowers and Merena (6/1996), lot 255.* NGC ID# 22YY, PCGS# 3665

1853 Three Cent Silver, Lustrous MS66
A High-Mintage Issue



98040 1853 MS66 PCGS. CAC. The silver-gray surfaces of this attractive Premium Gem display pleasing luster; a splash of soft rose, green, and yellow-gold toning is visible in the upper-right obverse quadrant. Minor "orange-peel" texture, resulting from worn dies, appears over both sides, slightly more evident on the reverse. The design elements are sharply struck, save for softness in a few of the reverse star centers. This coin has been well-cared for. Housed in a green label holder.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 71 submissions in MS66 (three MS66+) and 10 finer. NGC reports 34 pieces in MS66 and 10 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1853 is the last of the Type One three cent silver pieces. Like its 1852 counterpart, struck in the amount of 18.6 million pieces, the 1853 saw a hefty production of 11.4 million coins. These coins circulated widely during a time of overall shortages of most circulating silver denominations, causing most to become well-worn. Gem and finer examples are quite challenging.

Provenance: *Purchased from RARCOA (2/1997).* NGC ID# 22Z2, PCGS# 3667

1854 Three Cent Silver, Choice Uncirculated
Lightly Patinated, Bold Olive Leaves



98041 1854 MS64 NGC. CAC. Each side is lightly toned in olive and blue patina with underlying brilliance still readily apparent. The lower obverse and upper reverse are a bit soft, but the olive leaves show well-delineated veins. Minimally abraded with faint die cracks and clash marks. Encapsulated in a prior generation NGC holder with a CAC approval sticker for quality within the grade.

Population Data (8/15): NGC and PCGS show 34 and 64 finer submissions, respectively.

Heritage Commentary: The Type Two design was introduced in 1854 and employed through 1858. Whereas Type One coins were composed of 0.80 gm of .750 silver and .250 copper, the Type Two coins weighed 0.75 gm and were composed of .900 silver and .100 copper. Two borders added around the star, and arrows and olive leaves on the reverse, signified the weight and composition modifications.

Provenance: W.R. Walling Collection (*Stack's*, 3/1996), lot 187. NGC ID# 22Z3, PCGS# 3670

1854 Three Cent Silver, Well-Struck MS66
An Important Condition Rarity



98042 1854 MS66 PCGS. CAC. The lustrous surfaces of this Premium Gem yield soft greenish-gray and lavender toning, along with a splash of yellow-gold on the upper right of the star. Deeper bluish-green and lavender cascade over the reverse, imbued with whispers of orange-gold. The design elements are well-struck throughout, including the two lines framing the star, the lines within the shield, the veins in the leaves above the III denomination and the arrow feathers below it. This is significant because the Type Two design type typically shows weak, uneven definition. A couple of the reverse star centers are soft. Three obverse die cracks are visible, as are clash marks in the centers of both sides.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 10 pieces grading MS66 and two coins finer. NGC shows four Premium Gems and two finer.

Heritage Commentary: Regular-issue Type Two three cent silver pieces were first produced in 1854 and were composed of 900 fine silver at a lower weight. This design type consists of two extra outer rims around the obverse star, an olive branch above the III denomination, and three arrows bound by a ribbon under it. This date is an important condition rarity in MS66 and finer.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (8/2005). NGC ID# 22Z3, PCGS# 3670

1856 Three Cent Silver, Flashy MS65
With CAC Approval



98043 1856 MS65 PCGS. CAC. A nicely impressed example, the surfaces display above average definition and modest, yet flashy cartwheel effects. Clashmarks are noted on both sides, particularly within the Roman numerals on the reverse, but there are no grade-limiting abrasions. Lightly toned in golden-apricot iridescence.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS shows 24 in MS65 and five finer, while NGC reports 16 and five in those respective grades. CAC has stickered nine in MS65 and four finer.

Heritage Commentary: The Type Two three cent silvers, showing two outlines to the obverse star, were minted only from 1854 through 1858 and are the most difficult to obtain for type purposes.

Provenance: *FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2001)*, lot 6453. NGC ID# 22Z5, PCGS# 3672

1857 Three Cent Silver, Toned MS66
Challenging in This Grade



98044 1857 MS66 NGC. CAC. A melange of lime-green, grayish-lavender, forest-green, and reddish-brown patination resides on the lustrous surfaces of this Premium Gem. Strong definition is apparent on the shield and the two star outlines, although UNIT, the lower date digits, and some of the reverse star centers are a touch soft. Uneven strikes are a typical characteristic of the Type Two design type. Both sides have been well-cared for.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports 15 pieces in MS66 and one coin finer. PCGS shows nine Premium Gems and two finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1857 three cent silver piece is difficult to locate in the better grades of Mint State. NGC and PCGS have graded just 93 submissions in MS65 and finer. Premium Gems such as the current offering are challenging, and higher-grade coins are nearly unavailable.

Provenance: *Bowers and Merena (8/1998)*, lot 55. NGC ID# 22Z6, PCGS# 3673

1862/1 Three Cent Silver, MS66
Difficult at This Grade Level



98045 1862/1 MS66 PCGS. CAC. FS-301. The underdigit 1 is visible along the left side of the 2 in the date. A sliver of greenish-blue along the right obverse border cedes to lavender and golden-tan patination. Soft russet and grayish-russet runs over the reverse. The design elements are sharply struck, including the shield lines, the outlines to the obverse star, and the reverse star centers, though the leaves on the left part of the olive branch are weak. A weak, short crack is visible below the 2. Both sides are nicely preserved.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 74 examples in Premium Gem and 15 coins finer. NGC shows 67 submissions graded MS66 and 13 specimens finer.

Heritage Commentary: The *Cherrypickers' Guide* states that: "The overdate is believed to be due more to economy (the Mint having used a good die another year) than to error." This issue is surprisingly available in Mint State, probably due to hoarding in the Civil War. The two services have graded more than 660 examples in Uncirculated grades. Nevertheless, examples in this level of preservation will require diligent searching, and finer pieces are very rare.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (1/2001). NGC ID# 22ZC, PCGS# 3681

1863 Three Cent Silver, Impeccable MS67
Only Two Finer at NGC



98046 1863 MS67 NGC. CAC. Blue, green, and russet toning completely blankets the surfaces, lending spectacular eye appeal to each side. This semiprooflike Superb Gem offers considerable contrast between the frosted devices and deep, watery fields. Undoubtedly, the rich patina is all that precludes a Prooflike designation. Essentially pristine and free of clash marks.

Population Data (8/15): There are five in MS67 at NGC and two at PCGS. Each service reports two submissions finer.

Heritage Commentary: This is the first of 10 low-mintage dates that conclude the three cent silver series. The Civil War had driven silver out of circulation by 1863 and only 21,000 coins were struck, mostly to pay for various purchases at the Mint. All but 500 or so survivors are thought to have been melted after 1873.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (10/1998). NGC ID# 22ZD, PCGS# 3682

1864 Three Cent Silver, Near-Pristine MS66
Only 12,000 Coins Minted



98047 1864 MS66 PCGS. CAC. The shield is well-defined, and only a few of the olive leaves and stars display mild strike softness. Each side is richly toned in olive and violet-gray patina with semiprooflike fields, the surfaces practically pristine save for a few tiny flecks. Bold clash marks occur throughout.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS lists 18 MS66 (one in MS66+) with 11 finer. There are 18 such at NGC and 13 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Output of three cent silver coins plunged to just 12,000 pieces in 1864. Choice Uncirculated is the most frequently awarded grade at PCGS and NGC, and Premium Gems such as this are conditionally rare.

Provenance: W.R. Walling Collection (*Stack's*, 3/1996), lot 190. NGC ID# 22ZE, PCGS# 3684

1865 Three Cent Silver, MS66
Rarely Found So Well-Preserved



98048 1865 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Intermixed shades of blue, green, and violet paint largely unabraded surfaces on each side. The horizontal shield lines, leaves, and stars show a touch of indistinctness. Noticeable die clashing appears around the star and within the denomination. The compelling eye appeal is recognized by CAC. Housed in a green label holder.

Population Data (8/15): There are just nine Premium Gems at PCGS (one in MS66+) with four coins finer. NGC reports 17 MS66 submissions and five examples finer.

Heritage Commentary: Like the issues that immediately precede and follow it, the 1865 enjoys a small mintage. Only 8,000 coins were struck, and approximately 400 pieces survive in all grades. Nearly 40% of those extant are graded across the various Uncirculated levels, but only a tiny fraction of the certified population are this well-preserved.

Provenance: Purchased from RARCOA (9/1996). NGC ID# 22ZF, PCGS# 3685

**1866 Three Cent Silver, Brilliant MS66
Frosty, Seemingly Freshly Minted**



98049 1866 MS66 PCGS. CAC. The appeal of this all-brilliant, thickly frosted Premium Gem example is undeniable. The obverse is decidedly prooflike with bold field-device contrast, unsurprising given the issue's low mintage. The reverse similarly displays noticeable contrast, though it is less overt than the obverse. Well-struck aside from minor softness on the olive leaves. Encapsulated in a green label holder.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS records 10 Premium Gems and 12 submissions finer, while NGC shows 12 MS66 representatives and five finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1866 (22,000 examples struck) claims a somewhat higher production than its ultralow-mintage contemporaries, but it enjoys a comparably low survival rate with just 600 coins believed extant, per CoinFacts. This wonderful MS66 representative will appeal to those who admire the look of an untoned, seemingly freshly minted example.

Provenance: *Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (9/1996).* NGC ID# 22NK, PCGS# 3686

**1867 Three Cent Silver, MS65
Virtually Unobtainable in Higher Grades**



98050 1867 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Each side offers a blend of golden-gray, rose-violet, and ice-blue patina, accounting for the excellent eye appeal recognized by CAC. Frosty luster issues from beneath the toning, further enhancing the aesthetic quality. The shield lines and stars are crisply delineated, while the olive leaves show the usual strike incompleteness. Void of clash marks and detracting abrasions.

Population Data (8/15): There are three in MS66 at PCGS and four submissions finer. NGC shows eight Premium Gems and three finer.

Heritage Commentary: The Philadelphia Mint reached a new low in three cent silver production in 1867. Only 4,000 coins were struck, and the average survivor grades just shy of MS61. Gene Gardner purchased this Gem in 1996 and was only able to upgrade to an MS66 in 2010, attesting to just how challenging the issue can be in high grades.

Provenance: *W.R. Walling Collection (Stack's, 3/1996), lot 191.* NGC ID# 22ZH, PCGS# 3687

1868 Three Cent Silver, MS66
One of the Finest We Have Offered



98051 1868 MS66 PCGS. CAC. A ring of ice-blue toning encircles the obverse, turning to light gold and violet-gray hues centrally. The reverse shows a uniform layer of attractive ocean-blue patina over glassy fields. Struck from unclashed dies, the design elements feature complete definition on each side. The appeal of this semiprooflike Premium Gem cannot be overstated.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS shows four in MS66 and a single MS67+ finer, while the top coins at NGC are two Premium Gem submissions.

Heritage Commentary: Among regular issues, only the 1870, 1871, and 1872 enjoy lower mintages than the 1868, of which just 3,500 coins were manufactured. The issue is among the most sought-after in the series, and examples in this impressive grade are extremely rare and virtually impossible to upgrade. Gene Gardner owned one other 1868, also certified MS66 by PCGS with CAC approval. That coin recently brought a record price of \$28,200 when it sold as part of the third installment of the Gardner Collection (Heritage, 5/2015), lot 98106.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (10/2001). NGC ID# 22ZJ, PCGS# 3688

1869 Three Cent Silver, MS64
Frosty, Brilliant With Light Rim Toning



98052 1869 MS64 PCGS. CAC. This near-Gem is thickly frosted and mostly brilliant with delicate olive and gold toning near the peripheries on each side. The strike falls just short of full, with two stars at the lower reverse showing incomplete centers. Otherwise, the shield, leaves, and fletchings display pinpoint definition. The surfaces are minimally marked for the assigned numeric grade and display splendid eye appeal.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 16 Choice examples and nine pieces finer, while NGC shows 12 Gems and 17 in higher grades.

Heritage Commentary: When Gene Gardner purchased this coin at auction nearly 20 years ago, the catalog description brazenly asserted: "A specialist in silver three cent pieces, no matter his or her financial resources, could not in a lifetime of aggressive bidding complete a set of gem Mint State trimes of 1863-1872." Gene Gardner defied that assertion, completing just such a set nearly twice over.

Provenance: Herbert D. Spencer Collection (Bowers and Merena, 6/1996), lot 270. NGC ID# 22ZK, PCGS# 3689

1869 Three Cent Silver, Iridescent Gem
Gold CAC Sticker



98053 1869 MS65 NGC. Gold CAC. Radiant ice-blue toning at the central obverse progresses to variegated hues of green, yellow, rose, and crimson. A similar blend of colors shrouds the reverse. The motifs exhibit razor-sharp strike detail, save for the two lower left stars, and microscopic ticks are imperceptible without magnification. Housed in a former generation holder with a rare gold CAC approval sticker.

Population Data (8/15): NGC has seen six MS65 representatives and 11 submissions higher. PCGS shows just three Gems and six finer. This is the sole 1869 three cent silver with a gold CAC approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: All 1869 representatives are scarce, as only 300 of the 4,500 coins struck are estimated to survive. Like other late-date issues in the series, the majority of examples were probably melted after 1873. Gems are rare, and this particular piece boasts a gold sticker from CAC, suggesting it merits at least one additional grade point.

Provenance: Purchased from Simco Numismatics (9/1996). NGC ID# 22ZK, PCGS# 3689

1871 Three Cent Silver, Toned MS66
Old-Time Collector Coin



98054 1871 MS66 NGC. CAC. Minimally toned centers merge with shades of russet, purple, and blue at the borders. The bands of color are better-defined on the obverse than the reverse. Glassy fields that surround frosted motifs are typical of coins from this low-mintage issue and give this coin a visual quality that is immediately apparent.

Population Data (8/15): NGC counts 36 MS66 (one MS66+, two MS66 ★) with 20 coins finer. PCGS records 23 submissions in MS66 and 11 examples rated higher.

Heritage Commentary: Gene Gardner's focus was to acquire the finest examples both in terms of their technical quality and eye appeal. Attractively toned representatives with an old-time look from years spent in felt-lined cabinets generally garnered premium bids. This coin has the same look Gene Gardner so desired, and we expect knowledgeable bidders will similarly recognize the quality of this Premium Gem.

Provenance: Purchased from Northeast Numismatics (2/1997). NGC ID# 22ZM, PCGS# 3692

1871 Three Cent Silver, MS67
Untoned Semiprooflike Surfaces



98055 1871 MS67 PCGS. CAC. Semiprooflike contrast is expected of high-grade coins from this low-mintage issue, and this Superb Gem delivers. Radiant, untoned surfaces display frosted motifs over somewhat mirrored fields. The strike exhibits a touch of blending over the bow and the lower portion of the denomination, but the overall definition is sharp.

Population Data (8/15): This is one of 11 Superb Gems tied atop the PCGS *Population Report*. NGC shows 17 in MS67 and three finer.

Heritage Commentary: Only 3,400 circulation-strike three cent silver coins and 1,000 proofs had been struck by the end of 1871. Despite this being one of the lowest-mintage issues in the series, it is also among the most collectible of the 1863-1872 dates in high grades.

Provenance: *Purchased directly from Heritage (8/2000).* NGC ID# 22ZM, PCGS# 3692

1872 Three Cent Silver, MS65
An Important Key Date in the Series
An Infrequent Opportunity



98056 1872 MS65 NGC. The lustrous surfaces of this Gem display soft lavender-rose, sky-blue, and mint-green patination on the obverse. This color palette yields deeper shades on the reverse. The design elements are well-struck, and there are no marks worthy of individual mention.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports eight in MS65 and eight finer. PCGS shows three Gems and seven finer. The meager 104 submissions in all grades (some likely resubmissions) certified by the two major services attest to its rarity in all grade levels.

Heritage Commentary: This year saw a production of just 1,000 circulation strikes, the lowest and final year of the silver three cent series in business-strike format. The population data indicate that most surviving examples are in Mint State through near-Gem. Our Auction Archives show 68 offerings of the 1872 in all grades by the major auction firms over the past 20 years or so, a number of which are multiple appearances. This is an infrequent opportunity for the specialist to acquire this important key date in the series.

Provenance: *Purchased from Simco Numismatics (9/1996).* NGC ID# 22ZN, PCGS# 3693

PROOF THREE CENT SILVER

1856 Three Cent Silver, PR64 Elusive in Proof Format



98057 1856 PR64 PCGS. CAC. Deep russet and golden-orange toning adorns this near-Gem Type Two proof. The reverse displays modest field-motif contrast, and the design features are sharply struck throughout, including the date digits, which are often weak on this issue. Both sides have been nicely cared for.

Population Data (8/15): Walter Breen in 1989 speculated that 30 to 40 examples survive. PCGS estimates that 60 pieces are known and has certified only 30 in all grades, including 12 PR64 (one PR64+), two PR64 Cameo, six PR65, one PR65 Cameo, two PR66, and one PR66 Cameo. NGC reports 17 in PR64 and 11 finer.

Heritage Commentary: While the number of 1856 proof three cent silver pieces went unrecorded, it was undoubtedly small. As the population reports indicate, it is a highly elusive issue.

Provenance: Milas Sale (*Stack's*, 5/1995), lot 56. NGC ID# 27C3, PCGS# 3703

1857 Three Cent Silver, PR64 Pleasing Eye Appeal



98058 1857 PR64 PCGS. Deep blue patination covers both sides of this near-Gem proof, and crisp definition is apparent throughout the design elements. This piece has been well-preserved and shows pleasing eye appeal. A light crack travels through the tops of 18 in the date.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 22 in PR64 and 16 finer, estimating that 75 examples survive. NGC shows 10 in PR64 and 21 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The two services report 87 coins in all grades, mostly in the near-Gem to Gem range. A number of them are likely to be resubmissions, but the 1857 proof three cent is still seldom seen, especially with the technical quality and aesthetic appeal of the present offering.

Provenance: Milas Sale (*Stack's*, 5/1995), lot 58. NGC ID# 27C4, PCGS# 3704

1858 Three Cent Silver, PR65
Razor-Sharp Detail Throughout



98059 1858 PR65 PCGS. CAC. Cobalt-blue and soft magenta compete for territory on the obverse of this Gem proof, and cobalt-blue gravitates to the reverse border, framing a magenta center. Both colors exhibit deeper hues on the reverse than on the obverse. Razor-sharp detail appears on the design elements, including the horizontal and vertical lines in the shield, the shield border, the star outlines, and the lines on the star radiating from the shield. The reverse elements are likewise crisp. This sharp design detail is significant because Type Two three cent silver pieces frequently exhibit an uneven strike. Impeccably preserved surfaces accentuate the coin's eye appeal, aptly recognized by CAC.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 20 Gem proofs and 15 finer. NGC shows 20 in PR65 and 24 finer. This is one of six in this grade with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: The Mint first began advertising proof sets for sale in 1858. The *2016 Guide Book* reports the production of 210 three cent silver proofs in this year, the lowest mintage so indicated for the entire series.

Provenance: Milas Sale (*Stack's*, 5/1995), lot 60. NGC ID# 27C5, PCGS# 3705

1859 Three Cent Silver, PR64
Strong Aesthetic Appeal, Ex: Eliasberg



98060 1859 PR64 PCGS. CAC. Ex: Eliasberg. Reddish-orange patina resides within most of the shield, ceding to cobalt-blue and magenta on the star and lime-green on the obverse margin. The reverse features orange-gold in the center, mostly reddish-gold on the C and cobalt-blue at the periphery. The design elements are sharply impressed, further enhancing the coin's gorgeous eye appeal. Both sides are nicely preserved. This piece is well-deserving of the CAC endorsement.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 56 examples in PR64 and 26 finer, with 43 in same grade and 34 finer at NGC. CAC has stickered six in this grade and 16 finer.

Heritage Commentary: In as-yet-unpublished research, John Dannreuther indicates that the Mint sold a considerable number of 1858 and 1859 proof coins because they could be obtained at face value, allowing dealers and collectors to speculate in them with no risk. This may help to explain the more than 300 1859 proof three cent silver pieces certified between PCGS and NGC.

The present near-Gem Eliasberg example was graded PR66 in the May 1996 Bowers and Merena catalog. Irrespective of the numerical grade, it displays impressive technical quality and aesthetic appeal, making it worthy of a generous bid.

Provenance: Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection (*Bowers and Merena*, 5/1996), lot 868. NGC ID# 27C6, PCGS# 3708

1859 Three Cent Silver, Toned PR65
First Year of the Type Three Design



98061 1859 PR65 PCGS. CAC. A medley of lavender, electric-blue, and mint-green patination takes on deeper hues on the reverse of this Gem proof, where it is joined by blushes of reddish-brown. The design elements are sharply struck, especially the lines of the shield and those radiating from the shield to the star points. Some of the reverse stars are weak in the center, however. Both sides have been well-cared for.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS shows 20 submissions in PR65 and six finer. NGC reports 21 in PR65 and 13 finer.

Heritage Commentary: This is the first year of the Type Three silver three cent piece, showing one outline to the obverse star. The new design type was intended to improve strike quality. A total of 800 proofs were minted, representing a hefty increase from the 210 pieces produced in 1858.

Provenance: *Milas Sale (Stack's, 5/1995), lot 62.* NGC ID# 27C6, PCGS# 3708

1862 Three Cent Silver, Sharp PR66
Excellent Choice for a Date or Type Set



98062 1862 PR66 PCGS. Light orange-gold toning on the obverse central device cedes to deep maroon in the field, yielding modest field-motif contrast. The reverse takes on dark shades of electric-blue and grayish-maroon. The design elements are sharply struck throughout; both sides display impeccable preservation.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 14 in PR66 (two PR66+) and none finer. NGC shows 12 in PR66 and six finer.

Heritage Commentary: A total of 550 proof three cent silver pieces were struck in 1862. A fair number apparently survive to the present day, mostly in the PR63-PR64 range. The current PR66 offering is an excellent choice for a high-grade date or type collection.

Provenance: *Milas Sale (Stack's, 5/1995), lot 67.* NGC ID# 27C9, PCGS# 3711

**1863/2 Three Cent Silver, Sharp PR64
An Important Numismatic Rarity**



98063 1863/2 PR64 PCGS. CAC. Breen-2944. Shades of yellow-gold patina embrace the shield and upper portions of the star on this near-Gem proof, transitioning to reddish-tan over the remainder of the obverse. Blushes of lavender, powder-blue, and orange-gold cascade over the reverse. Razor-sharp definition occurs on the design elements. Both sides have been well-cared for, further enhancing the coin's pleasing eye appeal. What appears to be the downstroke of a 2 is clearly visible on the lower-left part of the 3 in the date.

Variety: Breen-2944. Breen (1988) states: "Restrike. Proofs only. Very rare. Heavy 1863 punched over lighter 1862."

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 11 submissions in PR64 and seven finer. There is no listing for the 1863/2 on the NGC website.

Heritage Commentary: The PCGS CoinFacts website Survival Estimate for the 1863/2 is 35 pieces in all grades, yielding a Rarity Scale of 8.8 out of 10. Jaime Hernandez writes of the 1863/2: "This is one of three different over dates in the entire series. The Mint produced an over date for the circulation strike issues in 1862 and 1869. For the Proofs it struck over dates in 1863 and in 1869." Our Auction Archives list 41 appearances of the 1863/2 proof three cent silver in all grades over the past 22 years, a number of them known duplicates. The present near-Gem proof presents an excellent opportunity to acquire a sharp example of this classic rarity.

Provenance: *Numisma '95* (Stack's session, 11/1995), lot 1054. NGC ID# 22ZP, PCGS# 3713

**1863 Three Cent Silver, PR64
Second Lowest Mintage in the Series**



98064 1863 PR64 PCGS. A blend of russet, bluish-purple, and sea-green patination runs over the obverse of this near-Gem proof, ceding to variegated purple, bluish-green, cobalt-blue, reddish-brown, and violet on the reverse. The design elements are well-struck, and neither side reveals significant marks.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS shows 50 submissions in PR64 and 34 finer, with NGC showing respective totals of 39 and 43 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 460-piece production of the 1863 three cent silver proof is the second lowest of the "regular issue" proof mintage in the series, trailing only the reported 210-piece 1858. PCGS and NGC have seen nearly 340 submissions of the 1863, indicating that much of this issue was likely hoarded during the Civil War. NGC ID# 7VZF, PCGS# 3712

1865 Three Cent Silver, PR67
An Important Condition Rarity



98065 1865 PR67 NGC. Relatively light orange-gold color in the central devices provides modest contrast against deeper purplish toning in the fields. The design features are sharply impressed, and both sides are impeccably preserved. A trivial mark only seen under magnification between vertical lines 8 and 9 in the shield is noted for identification purposes.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports six submissions in PR67 and one finer. PCGS shows none so fine.

Heritage Commentary: The 1865 saw a mintage of 500 proofs. The low production of circulation strikes in this year, 8,000 pieces, exerts considerable pressure on the proofs, especially in the higher levels of preservation. The current PR67 condition rarity is an excellent choice for a high-grade date or type collection.

Provenance: *Superior (2/2000)*, lot 82. NGC ID# 27CB, PCGS# 3715

1866 Three Cent Silver, PR67
Among the Finest at PCGS and CAC



98066 1866 PR67 PCGS. CAC. This beautifully toned Superb Gem proof displays an array of orange-gold, forest-green, and lavender patina laced with whispers of cobalt-blue. Crisp definition is apparent throughout the design features, and both sides are impeccably preserved. These attributes add up to outstanding eye appeal.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports two grading events in PR67 and none finer. NGC shows none in PR67, but there is one in PR68. The current offering is one of the two finest PR67 pieces endorsed by CAC.

Heritage Commentary: The 1866 comes from a mintage of 725 pieces, and most survivors today range from PR63 to PR65. PCGS CoinFacts estimates that perhaps 180 survive today in PR65 or higher grades. The present PR67 offering, one of the two finest at PCGS, is a standout coin owing to its beautiful toning.

Provenance: *Purchased from Pinnacle Rareities (7/2000)*. NGC ID# 27CC, PCGS# 3716

1867 Three Cent Silver, Magnificent PR65
With CAC Gold Sticker



98067 1867 PR65 PCGS. Gold CAC. Mirrored fields that display a melange of deep forest-green, greenish-blue, electric-blue, and lavender toning accentuate the frosty motifs covered with light silver-gold patina, producing noticeable contrast over both sides. Razor-sharp detail appears on the design elements, and impeccable preservation prevails throughout. The Gold CAC sticker affirms the coin's magnificent eye appeal.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 54 in PR65 (one PR65+) and 28 finer. NGC shows 49 in PR65 and 37 finer. The present PR65 offering is the *only* 1867 three cent silver proof given the Gold CAC sticker.

Heritage Commentary: Breen (1988) indicates that most of the 4,000 1867 circulation strikes were melted in July 1873. Presumably then, date collectors exert added pressure on the proofs, of which 625 were produced. The present Gem with its outstanding eye appeal and infrequently designated Gold CAC endorsement stands out as a fabulous opportunity for the three cent silver proof specialist.

Provenance: *R.M. Smythe (11/2000), lot 1607.* NGC ID# 27CD, PCGS# 3717

1867 Three Cent Silver, PR64 Cameo
Sharply Struck Throughout



98068 1867 PR64 Cameo NGC. CAC. Greenish-gray patination in the mirrored fields, slightly darker on the reverse, further enhances the cameo contrast against soft golden-gray semifrosted devices. The design elements are sharply delineated, and the surfaces have been well-cared for.

Population (8/15): NGC reports nine PR64 Cameo examples and 25 finer. PCGS shows 21 in the same grade and 36 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1867 proof three cent silver piece claims a production of 625 coins. Most of the certified survivors are PR64 or PR65, with Cameo pieces constituting about one-sixth of the total submissions.

Provenance: *Bowers and Merena (5/1996), lot 876.* NGC ID# 27CD, PCGS# 83717

1868 Three Cent Silver, PR66 Cameo
An Alternative to the Rare Business Strike



98069 1868 PR66 Cameo PCGS. CAC. The mirrored fields toned in olive-green and bluish-gray highlight the light orange-gold devices. Sharp detail is apparent over the design elements, and both sides are well-preserved. This piece displays pleasing overall eye appeal, appropriately recognized by CAC.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports nine submissions in PR66 Cameo and two finer. NGC shows three and two in those same grade levels.

Heritage Commentary: The Mint produced 600 three cent silver pieces in proof format in 1868, along with a minuscule mintage of 3,500 circulation strikes, most of which were apparently melted in July 1873, according to Breen (1988). The rarity of the latter exerts considerable pressure on the proofs from date collectors, especially in the higher levels of preservation. Higher-grade cameos such as the current offering are especially desirable.

Provenance: Stack's (10/1995), lot 160. NGC ID# 27CE, PCGS# 83718

1869 Three Cent Silver, Toned PR65
With CAC Approval



98070 1869 PR65 PCGS. CAC. Olive-green patina in the fields highlights the obverse orange-gold devices on this Gem, while deep maroon and olive-green accented with whispers of orange-gold and sky-blue cover the reverse. The design features are sharply struck and neither side reveals mentionable marks.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 35 submitted in PR65 and 22 finer, while NGC shows 40 in PR65 and 25 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Breen contends that most of the business strikes (4,500 pieces) were melted in July 1873. Presumably, additional pressure is placed on the proofs (with a mintage of 600 pieces) from date collectors.

Provenance: Stack's (9/1997), lot 525. NGC ID# 22ZR, PCGS# 3719

1870 Three Cent Silver, Richly Toned PR66
Difficult in This Grade Level



98071 1870 PR66 NGC. Rich cobalt-blue and purple toning adorns this Premium Gem proof, and sharp detail appears over all design features. The surfaces on both sides are impeccably preserved, producing great eye appeal. Housed in a prior generation holder.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports 26 in PR66 and eight finer, with PCGS showing 20 in PR66 (two PR66+) and two in finer grades.

Heritage Commentary: Most survivors of the 1,000 proof coins struck of this issue struck fall into the PR63-PR65 range. Premium Gem proofs, such as the lovely offering, are much more difficult to come by.

Provenance: *Purchased from Simco Numismatics (9/1996).* NGC ID# 27CF, PCGS# 3721

1870 Three Cent Silver, PR64 Cameo
Business Strike Alternative



98072 1870 PR64 Cameo PCGS. CAC. Shades of reddish-gold, cobalt-blue, yellow-green, and lavender are joined on the reverse by soft reddish-rose. The design elements are sharply struck, including the horizontal and vertical lines in the shield, the lines radiating from the shield to the star points, the veins in the reverse leaves, and the arrow feathers. Both sides display pleasing field-motif contrast.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS shows 14 submissions in PR64 Cameo and 20 finer. NGC shows six in the same grade and 12 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The number of proofs minted rose to 1,000 pieces this year, the highest production since 1861. On the other hand, the number of circulation strikes declined to 3,000 coins, a drop from 4,500 pieces manufactured in 1869. Most of the business strikes were melted in July 1873, so the proofs must serve double duty as substitutes for date collectors.

Provenance: *Milas Sale (Stack's, 5/1995), lot 85.* NGC ID# 27CF, PCGS# 83721

1871 Three Cent Silver, PR67
Exceptional Opportunity for a Date Set



98073 1871 PR67 NGC. CAC. Cobalt-blue, lavender, and reddish-gold gravitate to the margins, ceding to soft greenish-blue in the central areas. The central devices are light silver-gray and stand out against the fields, especially on the obverse. Sharply struck design elements and impeccably preserved surfaces round out the outstanding eye appeal of this piece, appropriately recognized by CAC. We mention a minuscule mark on the lower parts of the first two stands in the denomination solely to help future catalogers and researchers identify the coin.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports nine submissions in PR67 and one finer. PCGS shows five PR67 pieces and also one finer. This is one of six in this grade with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: In 1871, the Mint produced 960 proofs and 3,400 circulation strikes. As many coins of both formats were melted, high-grade proofs are an important substitute for specialists attempting to complete a date set. The present Superb Gem is the finest likely to be encountered, an exceptional opportunity for the three cent silver collector.

Provenance: *Bowers and Merena (1/1999)*, lot 1041. NGC ID# 27CG, PCGS# 3722

1871 Three Cent Silver, PR64 Cameo
Concentric Toning



98074 1871 PR64 Cameo PCGS. CAC. Pleasing field-motif contrast embraces both sides of this near-Gem proof. Whispers of bluish-green, reddish-gold, and magenta patination reside on the obverse, while olive-green, sky-blue, silver-gray, and russet visit the reverse. Sharp definition is apparent on all of the design features, further enhancing the beautiful eye appeal. A couple of minute marks appear on the upper part of the third stand in the denomination.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 16 in PR64 Cameo (one PR64+ Cameo) and 20 finer. NGC shows seven in PR64 Cameo and 16 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Breen (1988) writes of the 1871 proof three cent silver: "A small hoard of proofs (under 100) turned up in the John Zug estate (Bowie, MD) before 1964; long since dispersed."

Provenance: *Milas Sale (Stack's, 5/1995)*, lot 87. NGC ID# 27CG, PCGS# 83722

1872 Three Cent Silver, PR65
Above-Average Eye Appeal



98075 1872 PR65 PCGS. CAC. Deep rose and cobalt-blue patina in the obverse field frames the lighter-toned devices. The reverse exhibits reddish toning laced with whispers of sky-blue. The design elements are sharply struck and both sides have been well-cared for, further enhancing the eye appeal.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 38 submissions in PR65 and 22 finer. NGC shows 43 Gems and 31 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The meager 1,000-piece circulation-strike mintage and its subsequent rarity in all grades places heavy pressure on the proofs from date collectors. The present Gem proof with its above-average eye appeal is an excellent choice for a high-grade date collection.

Provenance: *R.M. Smythe (11/2000)*, lot 1612. NGC ID# 27CH, PCGS# 3723

1872 Three Cent Silver, PR67
An Important Condition Rarity
Marvelous Eye Appeal



98076 1872 PR67 NGC. Reddish-gold, cobalt-blue, and lavender patination assumes deeper shades on the reverse of this Superb Gem proof. Sharply struck design features stand out over both sides of this immaculately preserved specimen, showing marvelous eye appeal.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports eight in PR67 and three finer, and PCGS three in PR67 and two finer.

Heritage Commentary: The penultimate year for the three cent silver proof series showed a production of 950 pieces. Examples in PR67 such as the present coin are rare, and finer coins nearly unobtainable. This marvelous Superb Gem will be an excellent addition to a high-grade collection, well-deserving of a generous bid.

Provenance: *Purchased from U.S. Coins (9/2004)*. NGC ID# 27CH, PCGS# 3723

1873 Three Cent Silver, PR65
A Proof-Only Issue and Key Date



98077 1873 PR65 PCGS. CAC. Cobalt-blue toning resides on the lightly frosted central devices of this Gem proof, enabling them to stand out against the mirrored fields, especially on the obverse. The design elements are sharply struck and neither side reveals significant marks, enhancing the pleasing eye appeal.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS shows 57 submissions in PR65 and 17 finer. NGC reports 66 in PR65 and 33 finer.

Heritage Commentary: This proof-only issue is the last of the three cent silver series. According to the 2016 *Guide Book*, 600 pieces were manufactured, all of the Closed 3 variety. Breen (1988) writes: "The Mint's publicity agent, Andrew Madsen Smith, had a hoard of at least 300. Others were melted in July 1873." Smith's hoard likely helps to account for the large number of examples certified by PCGS and NGC: 883 pieces. But that said, the original mintage may be suspect in terms of being underreported, or perhaps the grading services have seen a disproportionately larger number of resubmitted coins. However, as our Archives reveals 478 listings in all three proof finishes over the last 20+ years, it may be that the original mintage was indeed somewhat higher than previously assumed.

In any event, the proof-only 1873 is a significant key date in the silver three cent series, one necessary to complete a date set. The current Gem proof with CAC approval will be a standout in such a collection.

Provenance: Dr. Shasky Collection / Numisma '95 (*Stack's Session*, 11/1995), lot 1059. Dr. Donald R. Shasky, a dermatologist and malacologist (expert on marine shells), amassed a hoard of 83 examples of this proof-only date. NGC ID# 27CJ, PCGS# 3724

PROOF THREE CENT NICKEL

1886 Three Cent Nickel
Moderately Toned PR67
Challenging in This Grade Level



98078 1886 PR67 NGC. Moderate reddish-brown patination cascades over both sides of this Superb Gem proof, the reverse showing slightly deeper shades. The design elements are sharply impressed, including all lines of the III denomination. Close examination reveals no mentionable marks. Housed in a prior generation holder.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 40 grading events in PR67 (two PR67 ★) and two finer, both PR68 ★. PCGS shows 55 submitted in PR67 and three finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1886 three cent nickel is among three proof-only issues of the series (the others being the 1877 and 1878) and has one of the highest mintages (4,290 pieces). Most certified survivors are in the PR62-PR64 grade range, with an occasional appearance of a Gem or Premium Gem example. The populations decline markedly in PR67, where the 1886 becomes a major challenge; higher-grade coins are extremely rare. NGC ID# 2768, PCGS# 3782

SHIELD NICKEL

1871 Shield Nickel, MS65
Conditionally Rare Semikey



98079 1871 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Light champagne-gold color complements brilliant surfaces with fully struck devices. Prominent die cracks appear throughout both sides, as often seen. A few thin grazes limit the technical grade, but the eye appeal of this Gem is unbounded.

Population Data (8/15): This is one of 34 Gem grading events at PCGS, and only 12 are finer at that service.

Heritage Commentary: The 1871 is one of the better dates in the Shield nickel series, the first issue with a mintage below 1 million coins. A total of 561,000 examples were struck; most pieces show numerous spindly die cracks, as Mint officials encountered difficulty striking coins in the relatively hard cupronickel composition.

Provenance: Purchased from CAGI (11/2007). NGC ID# 22P5, PCGS# 3798

PROOF SHIELD NICKELS

1866 Rays Nickel, PR64
First-Year Issue



98080 1866 Rays PR64 NGC. Two small raised dots in the center on each side confirm the proof origin of this Choice example. Pearl-gray surfaces show light streakiness, a typical characteristic of the issue resulting from improperly rinsed planchets. Boldly struck with minor marks on the shield.

Heritage Commentary: The Act of May 16, 1866, established the five cent nickel denomination, represented by this Choice first-year proof (600 pieces struck). A metric weight of 77.16 grains was authorized in favor of the originally proposed 60 grains, as it equated to exactly five grams. Senator John Sherman and Congressman John A. Kasson (later of stella fame) were instrumental in promoting the metric weight in an effort to develop a universal system of coinage and measures.

Provenance: David Queller Family Collection (Stack's, 3/1997), lot 197. NGC ID# 276G, PCGS# 3817

1866 Rays Nickel, PR66 Cameo
Pleasing First-Year Type Coin



98081 1866 Rays PR66 Cameo PCGS. Gleaming fields toned pale gold highlight frosted nickel-white devices, producing strong contrast. No contact marks of any consequence impede the impeccably preserved surfaces. This Premium Gem first-year type coin exhibits pleasing eye appeal.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 30 in PR66 Cameo and three finer, and NGC shows 30 in this grade and 10 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The exact mintage figure of this issue is unknown because Mint records were destroyed in 1925 (Peters and Mohon, 1995). The authors estimate 375+ coins were produced. Bowers puts the mintage at about 500, Michael Wescott estimates 200+, and Breen suggests 175+. The 2016 *Red Book* lists the production at 600+.

Provenance: *Long Beach Signature* (Heritage, 6/2010), lot 342. NGC ID# 276G, PCGS# 83817

1869 Nickel, PR66
Only Two Finer at PCGS



98082 1869 PR66 PCGS. Light golden-peach colors the interior portions, while pale nickel-gray dominates the margins. This is a glossy Premium Gem proof, a touch incomplete on the lower and right reverse stars but gorgeous on the obverse, including the olive leaves.

Population Data (8/15): This Premium Gem is among 22 others at PCGS with two finer examples. NGC shows 37 Premium Gems (two PR66 ★, one PR66+) and six finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1869 has one of the lowest proof mintages in the Shield nickel series after the 1867 Rays issue, as only 600 specimens were struck. Proofs are readily available through PR65, but the certified population declines significantly at the Premium Gem level. The top-graded PR67+ PCGS example recently realized \$11,750 in the first installment of the Gene Gardner Collection (Heritage, 6/2014).

Provenance: *Chicago Signature* (Heritage, 8/2011), lot 3328. NGC ID# 276K, PCGS# 3823

1871 Shield Nickel, PR66
One Finer at PCGS



98083 1871 PR66 PCGS. The largely brilliant obverse shows glints of orange peripheral tones, while the reverse exhibits violet and cobalt-blue hues. The design definition is predictably razor-sharp for a proof, and marks are limited to a few microscopic flecks over each side. There is a prominent lint mark in the form of a 2 just left of the value on the reverse.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS lists 32 in PR66 (one PR66+) with a single example finer. There are 37 in PR66 at NGC (including some with Plus and/or Star designations) and four finer.

Heritage Commentary: The dearth of comparably graded Mint State circulation strikes puts pressure on top-notch proofs such as this. For example, PCGS has seen only 10 MS66 coins compared to the 32 PR66 submissions noted above, making this a fantastic option for the budget-conscious collector.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (6/2012). NGC ID# 276M, PCGS# 3825

1872 Nickel, PR66
Doubled Die Obverse



98084 1872 PR66 PCGS. CAC. Powder-blue, green, and violet overtones embrace the obverse, while similar colors are joined by shades of rose and orange on the reverse. A green CAC sticker recognizes the strong eye appeal of this Premium Gem proof. Well-preserved with three minute lint marks (as-made) adjacent to the flag of the 5 in the left reverse field.

Variety: Similar to FS-101. The annulet, cross, shield, and olive leaves show doubling with the secondary images south-southeast of the primary images.

Population Data (5/15): PCGS reports 60 examples in PR66 (two PR66+) with two finer. NGC shows 55 in PR66 and six finer.

Heritage Commentary: The *Guide Book* reports of mintage of 950 proof Shield nickels in 1872 but allows for a possibility that additional proofs were manufactured.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (6/2012). NGC ID# 22P6, PCGS# 3826

1873 Closed 3 Nickel, PR66
Outstanding Aesthetic Quality



98085 1873 Closed 3 PR66 PCGS. CAC. This gorgeous Premium Gem proof Shield nickel displays delicate blue, rose, and gold toning over satiny, reflective surfaces. The devices show bold design detail with noticeable contrast against the watery fields.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 26 in PR66 (one PR66+) and four in higher grades. There are 40 comparably graded examples at NGC and four finer. CAC has given the green bean to only seven in this grade and two finer.

Heritage Commentary: Proofs of this issue were all struck early in the year with a Closed 3 in the date. According to Peters and Mohon (1995): "Many proofs were struck on granular planchets, but still seem to be of better quality than the mint state pieces. Difficult to find in Gem+." The *Guide Book* reports a mintage of 1,100 proofs.

Provenance: *Houston Signature* (Heritage, 11/2009), lot 230; purchased from *Legend Numismatics* (10/2011). NGC ID# 5KX3, PCGS# 3827

1875 Nickel, Untoned PR65 Cameo



98086 1875 PR65 Cameo NGC. Deeply mirrored fields encompass frosty devices on each side of this brilliant Gem proof. The contrast generated is unquestionably deserving of the Cameo designation. The surfaces are moderately granular, typical of the issue, while a sharp proof strike and minimal indications of contact heighten the appeal.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports 15 PR65 Cameo examples and 13 submissions finer, while PCGS has seen 19 coins in PR65 Cameo with 10 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Proofs from this issue (700 pieces struck) are among the most elusive in the series in grades of PR65 and finer.

Provenance: *Pennsylvania Cabinet Sale* (Bowers and Merena, 11/1997), lot 259. NGC ID# 276S, PCGS# 83829

1878 Nickel, High-End PR65
Proof-Only Issue



98087 1878 PR65 PCGS. CAC. Subtle hints of rose and violet provide the only suggestion of color throughout this otherwise brilliant Gem proof. Semireflective fields contrast moderately against devices that display a full proof strike. A high-end coin for the grade, housed in an old green label holder with a CAC approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: This is a widely sought-after proof-only issue with a mintage of just 2,350 coins. Although examples are more available than the 1877 proof-only representatives, this is still among the most challenging dates in the series. Walter Breen's *Proof Encyclopedia* (1989) notes that all of the 2,350 proofs struck in 1878 show the shaft of a 7 in the lower loop of the last 8 in the date.

Provenance: Baltimore Auction (Bowers and Merena, 3/2011), lot 1086. NGC ID# 276V, PCGS# 3832

1878 Nickel, Sharply Struck PR65
Proof-Only Issue Needed for a Date Set



98088 1878 PR65 NGC. CAC. Soft greenish-gray and light tan patination takes on slightly deeper hues on the reverse of this proof-only Gem. The design elements are sharply struck throughout, and the occasional trivial marks are within the parameters of the grade designation. Indeed, this coin displays nice eye appeal and is well-deserving of the CAC endorsement.

Population Data (8/15): NGC and PCGS have certified about 1,500 submissions of the 1878 proof nickel, making it available through Premium Gem. Higher-grade pieces are rare.

Heritage Commentary: The 2,350-piece production of the 1878 was the highest for the Shield nickel proofs up until that time and continued to increase through the end of the series. While not commanding the price of the proof-only 1877, the proof-only 1878 is still necessary to complete a date collection.

Provenance: Stack's (10/1995), lot 228. NGC ID# 276V, PCGS# 3832

1879 Shield Nickel, PR67
A Top-Graded Example at PCGS



98089 1879 PR67 PCGS. CAC. Glimpses of peach-orange, rose, and powder-blue appear on each side of this mostly nickel-gray Superb Gem proof. Deeply reflective fields, particularly in the central reverse, flash against lightly frosted devices. A coin of excellent visual and technical quality.

Population Data (8/15): This is a top-graded proof at PCGS, tied with 14 other examples. NGC shows 16 pieces in PR67 and a single finer submission.

Heritage Commentary: Several factors make the 1879 proof Shield nickel popular among type enthusiasts. Examples are available even in this remarkable state of preservation, though PR67 pieces are conditionally rare. The issue is also known for above-average production quality with sharp strikes and few planchet imperfections. This eye-catching piece would make an ideal type candidate.

Provenance: *Purchased from Legend Numismatics (10/2012).* NGC ID# 22PG, PCGS# 3833

LIBERTY NICKELS

1884 Nickel, MS65
Smooth, Champagne-Gold Surfaces



98090 1884 MS65 PCGS. The sharp strike on this Gem is unquestionably among its standout qualities, accompanied by minimally marked surfaces with appealing, softly frosted luster and champagne-gold accents.

Population Data (8/15): There are only 31 finer examples at PCGS and 22 at NGC.

Heritage Commentary: This is the second year of issue in the Liberty nickel series with a mintage of just over 11.2 million coins. The production total, seemingly high, is lower than most dates in the series. Readily available through Choice condition, the 1884 becomes very scarce in MS65. Finer examples are rarely seen. Most pieces are sharply struck, as is the case with this lovely representative.

Provenance: *Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007).* NGC ID# 22PJ, PCGS# 3845

1886 Nickel, MS64
Capstone Date in the Series



98091 1886 MS64 PCGS. Blushes of apricot-orange, amber, and pale blue patina tint the obverse, while the central reverse shows a diagonal band of golden-russet toning in a southwest to northeast fashion with powder-blue at the upper and lower portions. The strike exhibits faint incompleteness over Liberty's ear and the lower wreath, typical for the date. A small depression obscures the I in LIBERTY, but the surfaces are otherwise clean.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS shows 47 finer examples and NGC 31 in higher grades.

Heritage Commentary: PCGS' CoinFacts ranks the 1886 as the rarest of all 33 issues in the Liberty Head nickel series in Uncirculated grades and third-rarest overall. A mintage of 3.3 million coins is one of the lowest in the set. Near-Gems are very scarce, and better-condition representatives are rare.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 277U, PCGS# 3847

1888 Nickel, MS66
Among the Finest Certified



98092 1888 MS66 NGC. Glints of pale golden-tan combine with intermittent shades of powder-blue and rose. Glimmering luster radiates softly over each side of this impeccably preserved Premium Gem. The stars show full centers, and the right ear of corn on the lower wreath is sharply defined.

Population Data (8/15): The finest examples are 13 MS66 pieces at NGC and 20 coins in the same grade at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: The 1888 nickel is one of the more challenging issues in the upper tiers of Mint State, though it does not compare to the rarity of the 1885 or 1886. The U.S. economy was booming in 1888, and more than 10 million Liberty nickels were struck in that year. The coins circulated extensively, and few were saved for numismatic purposes. Only 0.01% of the mintage survives in Uncirculated grades, and a meager 15% of all Mint State pieces are MS65 or better.

Provenance: Dr. Carl A. Minning, Jr. Collection (Bowers and Merena, 8/1999), lot 1251. NGC ID# 2774, PCGS# 3849

1892 Liberty Nickel, MS66
Unsurpassed Technical Quality



98093 1892 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Wisps of almond-gold patina invigorate this highly lustrous and well-impressed Premium Gem. The 1892 has a somewhat lower-mintage date in the series (relatively speaking), and it is especially desirable when located with such immaculate fields. Only the portrait shows any evidence of surface imperfections.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 24 grading events in MS66 and four others in MS66+. NGC has seen 12 in MS66 and neither service reports a finer submission.

Heritage Commentary: More than 11.6 million Liberty's nickels were produced at Philadelphia in the same year dimes, quarters, and half dollars bearing Charles Barber's new design began entering the channels of circulation. The certification totals at PCGS and NGC almost certainly include numerous resubmissions, but no coins have yet surpassed the quality of this important offering.

Provenance: *Central States Signature (Heritage, 4-5/2009)*, lot 1398; purchased from *David Lawrence Rare Coins (2/2011)*. NGC ID# 2777, PCGS# 3853

1892 Liberty Nickel, MS66
A Top-Graded Coin at Both Services



98094 1892 MS66 NGC. CAC. Highly lustrous, nickel-gray surfaces are brilliant and virtually devoid of color aside from trace amounts of pale-blue and gold. The devices are well-struck overall with softness confined to the typically incomplete upper stars and left ear of corn.

Population Data (8/15): This Premium Gem is tied for finest at both services. There are just 12 MS66 submissions at NGC (one in MS66 ★) and 28 grading events at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: Considering the introduction of the Barber coinage in 1892, one might be inclined to think the saving of Liberty nickels was somehow affected. The 1892 Liberty nickels could have either been disregarded in favor of the new dimes, quarters, and half dollars, or collectors might have gotten swept up in the collecting fever and set additional examples aside. In reality, the *Census* data reveal no significant deviation in the certification total one way or the other. However, like most other issues in the series, the 1892 is conditionally rare at the Premium Gem grade level.

Provenance: *Pennsylvania Cabinet Sale (Bowers and Merena, 11/1997)*, lot 331. NGC ID# 2777, PCGS# 3853

1895 Nickel, MS65
Exceptionally Sharp and Attractive



98095 1895 MS65 PCGS. CAC. The razor-sharp design elements show full radials on the stars, and even the left ear of corn exhibits a few individually defined kernels. Apricot-orange centers cede seamlessly to violet and sky-blue toning around the borders on both sides of this 1895 Gem Liberty nickel. Examination with a glass reveals a few scattered marks and microscopic carbon specks, yet the appeal is wholly unaffected.

Population Data (8/15): This is one of 67 Gems at PCGS (three in MS65+) with 22 finer examples.

Heritage Commentary: According to *The Complete Guide to Shield and Liberty Head Nickels* (1995): "Only a few of this date will be well struck, free from planchet flaws and carbon problems." This is clearly one of the exceptional representatives.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 277A, PCGS# 3856

1912-D Nickel, Beautifully Toned Gem
With CAC Approval



98096 1912-D MS65 PCGS. CAC. This wonderful 1912-D Gem makes up in visual appeal for what it lacks in strike definition. As usual for the issue, Liberty's hair, the stars, and the wreath motifs show incomplete detail. However, each side is beautifully toned in shades of powder-blue, orange, rose, green, yellow, and violet. Shimmering satin luster glistens over the carefully preserved surfaces, completing the appeal.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports only 39 finer submissions. CAC has certified 27 Gems between PCGS and NGC combined.

Heritage Commentary: Dies for the five cent denomination were sent to a branch mint for the first time in 1912, with the honor being shared between Denver and San Francisco. However, the Colorado facility's output vastly outpaced that of the California mint, totaling more than 8.4 million pieces. The issue is scarce in Gem condition, and finer coins are noted rarities.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 277P, PCGS# 3874

1912-D Liberty Nickel, Strong MS66
Condition and Strike Rarity



98097 1912-D MS66 PCGS. CAC. An exceptionally detailed coin for the issue, this Premium Gem displays nearly full stars (slight softness on stars 7 and 8), boldly delineated hair strands, and the left ear of corn has a few distinct kernels. Satiny luster rolls over surfaces lightly patinated in blue, tan, and rose hues. A tiny nick in the right reverse field adjacent to V is the only flaw of note with areas of inconsequential spotting on each side.

Population Data (8/15): This is one of 39 top-graded examples at PCGS (two in MS66+). NGC reports 23 Premium Gems (two each in MS66 ★ and MS66+) and three MS67 submissions.

Heritage Commentary: The 1912-D is both a condition and strike rarity. The typical offering is found in lower Mint State grades with a mushy strike. Gems are scarce, and series specialists will appreciate the rarity of this crisply impressed Premium Gem.

Provenance: *Baltimore Auction (Bowers and Merena, 11/2009), lot 431. NGC ID# 277P, PCGS# 3874*

1912-S Nickel, MS63
Lowest Mintage in the Series



98098 1912-S MS63 PCGS. Powder-blue and khaki-tan shadings dominate the surfaces, while hints of rose color the reverse wreath. A bit of central softness occurs on Liberty's hair, but the lower wreath, including the left corn husk, shows a surprising amount of detail. Two ticks in the left obverse field and behind the lowest hair curl are the only noteworthy marks over otherwise well-preserved surfaces.

Heritage Commentary: The West Coast facility began striking what would be a mintage of 238,000 Liberty nickels on December 24, 1912, just as production of the Charles Barber-designed series was coming to a close. The event coincided with the opening of San Francisco's first municipally owned electric streetcar line on Geary Street, and one of the first 40 1912-S nickels struck was symbolically used to pay the first fare on December 28.

Provenance: *60th Anniversary Sale (Stack's, 10/1995), lot 256. NGC ID# 277R, PCGS# 3875*

1912-S Liberty Nickel, MS64
20th Century Key Date



98099 1912-S MS64 PCGS. A crescent of rainbow toning hugs the right and lower obverse borders, showing shades of peach-orange, rose, blue, and green. Similar colors encompass the upper reverse margin, while the central areas on each side are mostly slate-blue and pale violet. The strike is a touch incomplete on Liberty's hair strands and the left ear of corn, but the star centers show. The obverse has a few ticks on Liberty's cheek, and small marks surround V on the reverse.

Heritage Commentary: The San Francisco Mint struck a mere 238,000 Liberty nickels in its first and only year producing coins of that design. The small mintage stands as the lowest in the entire series by far, making the 1912-S one of the premier dates in 20th century American numismatics.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 277R, PCGS# 3875

PROOF LIBERTY NICKELS

1885 Liberty Nickel, PR64
Widely Sought-After Date



98100 1885 PR64 PCGS. A blend of golden-orange, rose, mint-green, and sky-blue colors lightly blankets each side. The fields show abundant proof reflectivity and a minimal number of small contact marks, none singularly distracting.

Heritage Commentary: The 1885 is one of the most challenging issues in the Liberty nickel series. Generous production totals in preceding years resulted in the suspension of coinage in March 1885 after just 1.4 million circulation strikes had been minted. Surviving representatives are elusive in most grades and nearly unobtainable in Gem condition or better. Collectors frequently opt for a high-grade proof (3,790 pieces minted) in place of a business strike.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 277T, PCGS# 3883

1885 Nickel, PR65
Partial Cameo Contrast



98101 1885 PR65 PCGS. CAC. The fields on each side of this CAC-approved Gem proof are deeply mirrored, generating a partial cameo effect against the moderately frosted devices. Rose and golden hues color the surprisingly clean surfaces.

Population Data (8/15): This PR65 coin is one of 25 in this grade with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: This proof Liberty nickel issue is far more accessible in high grades than its coveted circulation-strike counterpart. The 1885 is the most challenging business-strike issue in the series with a mintage of just 1.4 million pieces (relatively small compared to other Liberty nickel dates), resulting in heightened demand for the 3,790 proofs among collectors looking to complete their sets.

Provenance: 60th Anniversary Sale (*Stack's*, 10/1995), lot 239. NGC ID# 277T, PCGS# 3883

1886 Liberty Nickel, PR66
Eye-Appealing Key-Date Alternative



98102 1886 PR66 PCGS. CAC. Mostly brilliant with blue, green, orange, and violet elements, this Premium Gem proof displays phenomenal eye appeal. The technical quality is equally strong, and only a small tick below Liberty's ear prevents a Superb Gem assessment.

Population Data (8/15): There are just 24 finer examples at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: The 1886 is very rare above the Gem grade level in circulation-strike format, and examples are often well-beyond the reach of most collectors when found. This puts added pressure on the 4,290 proofs struck in the same year. Proofs are accessible up to and including PR66, and they make excellent alternatives to the key date business strikes.

Provenance: *Stack's* (1/1998), lot 1087. NGC ID# 277U, PCGS# 3884

1886 Liberty Nickel, PR67
Desirable Date, Tied for Finest Certified



98103 1886 PR67 NGC. CAC. The toning on this Superb Gem proof is subtle, but the eye appeal is readily appreciable at first glance. Light blue, rose, and green hues tint surfaces that are otherwise brilliant and with no marks of note. A high-end coin for the assigned grade. Housed in a former generation holder.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports 20 coins in PR67 (one in PR67+, three in PR67 ★, one in PR67+★), while PCGS notes 24 in the same grade. Neither firm has seen a PR68 representative.

Heritage Commentary: Proofs are desirable for their low mintages, excellent production quality, and typically strong aesthetic appeal. When it comes to the 1886, the small contingent of surviving circulation strikes only heightens the appeal of the 4,290 proofs issued.

Provenance: Dr. Carl A. Minning, Jr. Collection (*Bowers and Merena*, 8/1999), lot 1238. NGC ID# 277U, PCGS# 3884

1886 Nickel, PR67
Old Green Label Holder



98104 1886 PR67 PCGS. CAC. This key date Superb Gem proof exhibits satin luster and a mark-free appearance. Light olive-gold and powder-blue toning drapes surfaces that show only infrequent evidence of pinpoint carbon. Housed in an old green label holder.

Population Data (8/15): The 24 PR67 examples at PCGS (one PR67+) and the 20 comparable submissions at NGC are tied for finest certified.

Heritage Commentary: The 1886 is a better date because of its low business-strike mintage and correspondingly small survival rate in high grades, heightening demand for high-end proofs like the one offered here.

Provenance: FUN Signature (*Heritage*, 1/2011), lot 4385. NGC ID# 277U, PCGS# 3884

1889 Nickel, PR67
Vividly Toned, Just One Coin Finer



98105 1889 PR67 NGC. Deeply mirrored fields underlie colorful patina that includes shades of orange, lavender, and sea-green iridescence. The colors are intermixed throughout the obverse, while orange and lavender are the primary reverse hues. The absence of any readily detectable flaws heightens this Superb Gem's strong appeal.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports 22 submissions in PR67 (one in PR67 ★), while PCGS lists 10 in the same grade. Only a single NGC example is finer.

Heritage Commentary: Dullness and planchet problems tend to plague this proof issue, of which 3,336 pieces were coined. Both Breen and Peters and Mohon warn against the acquisition of examples with those kinds of problems. The specialist looking to avoid them should carefully consider this 1889 beauty.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (9/2000). NGC ID# 277X, PCGS# 3887

1896 Liberty Nickel, PR67
Tied for Finest at Both Services



98106 1896 PR67 NGC. The colorful toning on this amazing Superb Gem proof sets it apart from similarly graded examples. The obverse displays shades of forest-green and reddish-orange with partial brilliance intermixed. Lighter golden-russet patina with areas of green, yellow, and rose colors most of the reverse, leaving the central and lower portions mostly untuned. A strong degree of proof mirroring is noted in the fields, and the toning only slightly subdues the field-device contrast.

Population Data (8/15): This PR67 piece is tied for finest with nine other NGC coins and three PCGS representatives.

Heritage Commentary: *The Complete Guide to Shield & Liberty Head Nickels* (1995) says of this proof issue: "Comes above average in all areas compared to many dates. Planchet flaws, laminations and other problems including abuse are still prevalent with this date." While this Superb Gem exhibits the bold proof strike characteristics, it is virtually free from any as-made or post-Mint imperfections. NGC ID# 2786, PCGS# 3894

1899 Nickel, PR67 Cameo
The Single Finest Example at NGC



98107 1899 PR67 Cameo NGC. This all-brilliant Superb Gem proof displays considerable contrast between the frosted motifs and reflective, mirrorlike fields, warranting the Cameo designation. Each side is devoid of any blemishes visible to the unaided eye, and the proof strike has fully brought up every design feature.

Population Data (8/15): This is the sole finest Cameo example at NGC. PCGS shows four PR67 Cameo submissions and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: Both the mintage (2,031 proofs struck) and production quality of the 1899 are typical of contemporary Liberty nickel issues, but this remarkable example distinguishes itself by its unsurpassed technical grade and eye-catching cameo contrast. A must-have for Registry collectors.

Provenance: Bayuk, Elliott Sale (*Stack's*, 5/2000), lot 286. NGC ID# 2789, PCGS# 83897

BUFFALO NICKEL

1924-D Nickel, MS65
Above-Average Strike



98108 1924-D MS65 PCGS. CAC. Ex: Dakota Collection. Pinkish-gray patina runs over the lustrous surfaces of the present Gem offering. The design elements are better defined than ordinarily encountered for this issue. Specifically, the date, LIBERTY, the Indian's braid, and the bison's horn and tail are sharp. The fur above the bison's forehead is weak, however, as typical for the date.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS has seen only seven examples grading finer than MS65, and NGC has certified a single piece finer. CAC has given the green bean to 17 in this grade and one finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1924-D Buffalo nickel had a mintage approaching 5.3 million pieces, and can be located through near-Gem. The certified population declines significantly in MS65 where the 1924-D becomes challenging; finer examples are extremely rare.

Provenance: Dallas Signature (*Heritage*, 10/2012), lot 3497. NGC ID# 22RY, PCGS# 3952

PROOF BUFFALO NICKEL

1913 Type Two Nickel, PR66
Beautifully Toned



98109 1913 Type Two PR66 PCGS. A melange of orange-gold, forest-green, lavender, and violet toning cascades over both sides of this matte proof Premium Gem Type Two Buffalo nickel. The design elements are sharply defined, befitting a proof strike. This piece has been well-cared for. Housed in a green label holder.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 98 Type Two proofs in Premium Gem, including three in PR66+, and 61 coins finer. NGC shows 76 Premium Gem examples and 41 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The Type Two proof saw a mintage of 1,514, just slightly lower than its Type One proof counterpart. Most of the Type Two examples are in the near-Gem to Premium Gem range. Both Type One and Two proofs are popular with type collectors, though the Type Two commands a somewhat lower price than the one-year-only Type One.

Provenance: Boys Town Sale (Bowers and Merena, 3/1998), lot 436. NGC ID# 278S, PCGS# 3990

EARLY HALF DIMES

1794 Half Dime, V-4, LM-4
Reflective AU58 Example



98110 1794 V-4, LM-4, R.4, AU58 PCGS. CAC. Copper-gold centers cede to lovely aqua, jade, and golden toning nearer the rims on each side of this lightly circulated but highly reflective 1794 half dime. Two centering dots show on the obverse (on most if not all known examples of this obverse), surrounded by two thin circular raised lines, some artifact in the die. This piece does show a linear scrape into the metal that intersects that same area of the obverse. This is a lovely coin with a touch of rub that keeps it from a high Mint State grade.

Variety: V-4, LM-4, R.4. Star 1 is recut and touches curls 1 and 2 with two of its points. One leaf tip touches the U(NITED) and one berry shows under the I in that word. **Die State:** The obverse is free of mentionable die cracks. The reverse shows a small crack from the rim above D in UNITED, passing through an olive leaf below, the left eagle's wing, and terminating at the breast. Faint clash marks show on the upper reverse.

Population Data (8/15): For the date, PCGS reports 15 in AU58 and four dozen finer; the finest is a lone MS66. For the variety, PCGS reports one each in AU58 and MS64.

Heritage Commentary: The two-year Flowing Hair half dime type is an essential one for completists, and this coin should have multiple admirers from more than one camp. This first-year coin was offered in the 1996 Stack's sale as "Choice Brilliant Uncirculated, Prooflike" but uncertified, doubtless because of its reflective surfaces. The surfaces are reflective and well-centered, but the AU58 PCGS assessment is far closer to the mark, particularly given the notable marks on the obverse and a whisper of high-point wear.

Provenance: Walling Collection (Stack's, 3/1996), lot 238. NGC ID# 22ZT, PCGS# 38584 Base PCGS# 4250

1795 V-4a, LM-10 Half Dime
MS64, Late Obverse Die State
Prominent Rim Cud Above TY-Star 9



98111 1795 V-4a, LM-10, R.3, MS64 PCGS. CAC. Glowing mint luster on both sides with rose-gold centers blends into a subtle interplay of delicate blue and violet shades at the rims of this stunning near-Gem 1795 half dime. Both the obverse hair and eye and the eagle on the reverse show a razor-sharp wealth of sculptural detail. Another coin in the Gardner Collection that has been out of the numismatic marketplace for nearly 20 years now.

Variety: V-4a, LM-10, R.3. Star 1, the 1 in the date, the flag of the 5, and star 15 join curl 2, the underside of curl 1, the forward bust truncation, and the bust tip, respectively; Liberty is quite “well-connected” on this obverse. The reverse shows one outer berry between UN(ITED). **Die State:** Late (and desirable), referred to as V-4a in the Daniel Valentine reference, showing a prominent rim cud connecting TY and star 9.

Population Data (8/15): For the year 1795, PCGS data show 23 in MS64 with 26 finer. NGC reports 34 in MS66 (one MS64+) and 19 finer. CAC assigns its green approval sticker to nine in this grade with 13 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The year 1795 was the second and final for the Flowing Hair motif. The eight 1795 15 Star obverse dies, used in 10 die pairings, were made before Tennessee joined the Union as its 16th state on June 1, 1796. The reported mintage for the 1795 half dimes is 10 times that of the 1794, making it the preferred choice for type collectors.

Provenance: Walling Collection Sale (Stack's, 3/1996), lot 239. NGC ID# 22ZV, PCGS# 38594 Base PCGS# 4251

BUST HALF DIMES

1830 V-8, LM-3 Half Dime, MS66
Luminous Color Coin in High Grade



98112 1830 V-8, LM-3, R.2, MS66 NGC. Gold, rose, copper, mint-green, and cobalt-blue intermingle to delightful effect on this illuminated Premium Gem 1830 half dime, lit by lively mint luster despite the moderately intense patina. A beautifully patinated coin such as this was a cinch for Gene Gardner to include in his collection, and it will attract many other numismatists with equally refined tastes in coins.

Variety: V-8, LM-3, R.2. The digit 0 in the date is perceptibly high and appears a tad separated from 183. As here, a die crack usually appears from star 1 to the field just before the bustline. On the reverse, the upright of the E in UNITED is centered over the E that begins the motto. R and I are close.

Population Data (8/15): For the date, NGC reports 33 in MS66 (two Prooflike) and four finer. PCGS shows 23 in MS66 (one MS66+) and six finer.

Heritage Commentary: The numerous high-grade survivors of this die pairing that survive today make one wonder if there were some special reason for their production. (The Pittman Collection Gem example was one [David Akers, 10/1997, lot 434], called “possibly Proof” and bought by John Jay Pittman as such.) In any case, they make wonderful type coins today.

Provenance: Purchased from Aspen Park Rare Coins (5/2006). PCGS# 38640 Base PCGS# 4277

1832 V-1, LM-3 Half Dime, Bold MS67
Likely the Finest Known



98113 1832 V-1, LM-3, R.1, MS67 PCGS. CAC. The boldly struck surfaces on this Superb Gem boast a high quotient of luster amid a rich palette of golden-gray, jade, mauve, and red patination. The 1832 is a common date in lower grades, but this example is an appealing and problem-free, conditionally rare high-grade type coin at this Mint State level.

Variety: V-1, LM-3, R.1. Star 12 is repunched — a trait shared with LM-13 — and star 13 is quite close to the lowest hair curl. The last A in AMERICA touches the uppermost arrowhead.

Population Data (8/15): For the 1832 date, PCGS reports 11 submissions in MS67 (one MS67+) and one finer, an MS68+. NGC shows 15 in MS67 (one a Star-designated coin) and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: The obverse of this die pairing is shared with the LM-4 variety, although the latter is far more elusive, rated R.4 or “very scarce” in the dime book. But lest bidders think this is a conditionally common coin, we hasten to point out that this is the sole and finest example of the V-1, LM-3 we have offered in the eight-plus years since Gene Gardner purchased this coin.

Provenance: *Dallas Signature* (Heritage, 4/2007), lot 484. NGC ID# 232E, PCGS# 38665 Base PCGS# 4279

SEATED HALF DIMES

1838-O Half Dime, MS62
Vividly Toned Example



98114 1838-O No Stars MS62 PCGS. CAC. V-1. The obverse is a virtual artist's palette, featuring a spectrum of gold, evergreen, and maroon. A few hairlines in the right field limit the technical grade of this CAC-approved piece, but the overall effect is stunning. The reverse is equally attractive, showing orange and navy woven through the peripheral lettering. Indigo splashes within HALF DIME complete a colorful picture.

Variety: V-1. The date is level and centered in the space beneath the base of the rock.

Population Data (8/15): The PCGS population is six pieces in MS62 and seven coins higher. NGC counts three pieces in MS62 and eight examples higher.

Heritage Commentary: This piece was purchased in the mid-1990s, during the period that Gene Gardner became once again interested in numismatics. While not the finest known for the issue, it is easy to appreciate our consignor's attraction to the present example, a near-Condition Census piece with generous eye appeal.

Provenance: *Empire State Collection* (Stack's, 1/1997), lot 497. NGC ID# 232N, PCGS# 4314

**1838-O No Stars Half Dime, MS64
Conditional Rarity, Ex: Reed Hawn
Splendidly Toned**



98115 1838-O No Stars MS64 PCGS. CAC. V-1. Ex: Reed Hawn. Lively luster invigorates both sides of this splendidly toned near-Gem, showing copper-gold patina accented by ice-blue at the rims on both sides.

Variety: V-1. **Die State:** The surfaces are boldly die clashed throughout. The E of DIME is plain beneath Liberty's right elbow. Numerous die cracks run upward from the left side of Liberty toward the rim in the upper-left obverse field. On the reverse, one barely perceptible die crack runs upward from the bow to meet the mintmark bottom; a second is more easily seen, running horizontally from the left-inside wreath leaves to the top-left ribbon to the mintmark and onward to meet clash marks inside the right wreath.

Population Data (8/15): This piece is one of four submissions in MS64 at PCGS, which shows a single MS66 finer — that coin, too, was among Gene Gardner's extensive holdings. NGC reports four MS64 and one MS65 (an untoned Gardner coin, also offered in this sale) finer.

Heritage Commentary: This piece is among four Mint State examples of the rare 1838-O No Stars that figured in the Gardner Collection. This piece, among many other positive attributes, is pedigreed (now) to three famous collections — Reed Hawn, the New York Connoisseur, and Gardner.

Provenance: Reed Hawn Collection (*Stack's*, 8/1973), lot 584; Fraser, Erwin Sale (*Stack's*, 3/1978), lot 1019; New York Connoisseur's Collection (*American Numismatic Rarities*, 3/2006), lot 492. NGC ID# 232N, PCGS# 4314

**1838-O No Stars Half Dime, Sharp MS65
Surpassed by Only One Known MS66**



98116 1838-O No Stars MS65 NGC. V-1. This Gem shows a typically bold strike. Both sides are essentially untuned, save for a hint of thin silver-gray color. Some slight muting of the luster is the only mentionable factor that might have limited the already high grade.

Variety: V-1. Large O mintmark, low in the field, with a wispy die crack running upward from the bow to meet its bottom. **Die State:** A wispy die crack on the obverse runs from Liberty's left (facing) arm to the rim at 10:30. Some die rust and minor clash marks show around the reverse peripheral letters and the field.

Population Data (8/15): The 1838-O half dimes simply went unsaved in any significant quantity. This piece is the sole finest at NGC. PCGS reports a single MS66 finer, but there are none in MS65 at that service. Each service reports four submissions in MS64.

Heritage Commentary: The 1838-O half dimes are important as the first New Orleans-struck coins of the denomination (and the new Liberty Seated design), produced to the meager extent of only 70,000 pieces. The 1838-O is one of only two No Stars issues in the half dime series, along with the 1837 Small Date and Large Date. Gene Gardner owned four examples of the 1838-O in Mint State, ranging from MS62 to MS66. This piece was, in its earlier appearance with us, the single finest known at both services combined. Even today, 12 years later, it appears to be the sole MS65 known. The MS66 PCGS example in the Gardner Collection sold for \$49,938 as lot 98181 in our Gardner Part I Signature (Heritage, 10/2014). This is really a second marvelous opportunity for type or complete-set collectors.

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2004), lot 2026. NGC ID# 232N, PCGS# 4314

1838 Large Stars Half Dime, MS67
Boldly Struck No Drapery Subtype



98117 1838 Large Stars, No Drapery MS67 NGC. Ex: Ashland City. Rose-gold occupies most of the center obverse, accented by sage-blue at the obverse rim. The reverse sports lighter-toned golden-gray patina with some deep iridescence near the rims. This Superb Gem half dime boasts a powerful strike throughout both sides.

Variety: Large Stars, No Drapery. The stars are all large and well-formed; recutting shows on one point of star 8.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports 23 examples in the MS67 level and seven in MS68, including Star-designated coins in both grades. PCGS shows three in MS67, two each in MS67+ and MS68, and one MS68+.

Heritage Commentary: The 1838 Large Stars half dimes represent the first year of their type, as the debut-issue 1837 half dimes featured the No Stars obverse motif, which was carried over in 1838 only in New Orleans. The generous mintage exceeding 2.2 million coins led to good survival even in the higher Mint States, as can be seen from the data above — a boon to collectors.

Provenance: ANA Sale (*Bowers and Merena*, 7/2003), lot 584. NGC ID# 2TXX, PCGS# 4317

1838 Small Stars Half Dime, MS65
V-2, Final Obverse Die State



98118 1838 Small Stars MS65 NGC. V-2. The obverse stars rest in a circular band of sea-green, while russet is scattered throughout the central figure. Apart from the die defects, the fields are smooth. The center of the reverse is brilliant and offers a pleasing contrast with the more deeply toned periphery.

Variety: V-2, identified by the obverse die crack running from the rim, through star 13, and into the field. The obverse stars, particularly 4 and 13, are noticeably thinner and weaker than on the Valentine-1 examples.

Population Data (8/15): The NGC census is seven coins in MS65 and two pieces in MS66. PCGS counts two examples in MS65 with none finer.

Heritage Commentary: The obverse die has deteriorated beyond the Valentine-1 examples of the 1838 Small Stars half dimes in the present sale. Die rust prevails over much of the portrait and is beginning to obliterate the letters in LIBERTY, and the star detail is fading. Meanwhile, a new reverse die is now in use, and the characteristic die crack from the rim to the first A in AMERICA is now absent. The new die exhibits a horizontal defect joining the letters M and E in DIME, while E is diagonally joined to the stem of a bud.

Provenance: Pre-Long Beach (*Goldberg Auctions*, 6/2002), lot 2045. NGC ID# 232R, PCGS# 4318

1838 Half Dime, MS65, Late-State V-1a
Among the Finest Small Stars Examples



98119 1838 Small Stars MS65 NGC. CAC. V-1a. This well-struck Gem features sea-green obverse fields surrounding a lilac Liberty. The reverse is almond-gold and aquamarine. Stars 3 and 4 on this mark-free Small Stars example are particularly attenuated, and the dies are prominently clashed, with diagnostic die rust on Liberty's raised arm.

Variety: V-1a, late obverse die state.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports seven pieces in MS65 and two in MS66. The PCGS population is two examples in MS65.

Heritage Commentary: Gene Gardner took a special interest in the 1838 Small Stars half dime and acquired four different examples. The progressively deteriorating dies are a reminder that products of the 19th-century Mint were not always perfect. The Philadelphia Mint produced more than 2 million half dimes in this year, creating a wide array of varieties for today's specialist. As such, the present coin is an ideal opportunity to acquire a piece that was especially meaningful to our consignor.

Consignor Commentary: V-1a, Small Stars. Struck from a highly clashed and deteriorating die. The die deterioration covers most of Liberty's figure but is really extreme on the left arm holding the pole. Clashing can be best seen from the appearance of a ghostly F between Liberty's left elbow and knee. A die break on the reverse connects the first A in AMERICA with the denticles. There is also an irregularity on the reverse connecting the letters TES O, perhaps the result of die clashing. The evenness of the toning gives this CAC-approved example excellent eye appeal.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 9/2008), lot 1587; Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2009), lot 842; Central States Signature (Heritage, 4/2009), lot 27. NGC ID# 232R, PCGS# 4318

1838 Small Stars Half Dime, MS66
Terminal Die States, V-1a
Tied for Finest Known



98120 1838 Small Stars MS66 NGC. V-1a. A lustrous cream-gray Premium Gem with unmarked surfaces and outstanding eye appeal. The strike is crisp although the denticles are soft, partly due to the late die state.

Variety: V-1a. Both sides exhibit eroded dies. Clash marks are evident on the obverse, and there is die rust throughout, especially on the right arm and wrist. A light die crack joins the rim and star 13. A heavy reverse die crack runs from the rim to the first A in AMERICA, in addition to die crumbling around TES OF.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports two pieces at MS65, with none higher. NGC notes but two examples of the Small Stars in MS66. This present coin, not attributed for variety by the NGC certification, is tied for finest known of the variety.

Heritage Commentary: Fans of terminal die states will be especially interested in the present coin. Combined with the stellar technical grade, a wide array of die cracks, clashing, and rust make for a distinctive Seated half dime. The Small Stars obverse variety is recognized by the *Guide Book* and easily identified with the unaided eye.

Provenance: Dallas Signature (Heritage, 11/2006), lot 464. NGC ID# 232R, PCGS# 4318

1839 No Drapery Half Dime, MS66
V-2, Repunched Date



98121 1839 No Drapery MS66 PCGS. CAC. V-2. A lustrous, brilliant center is highlighted by peripheral shades of russet and aqua on the obverse. The reverse is similar with lighter coloring scattered about the letters of HALF DIME. The strike is sharp, and the design elements are fully impressed. This piece is certified in an early blue-label PCGS holder.

Variety: V-2, with repunching seen in the 3 and 9 of the date. The date is low in the field, the digits 1 are 9 being visibly closer to the rim than to the base of Liberty.

Population Data (8/15): The PCGS population is 22 pieces in MS66 and six in MS67 (two MS67+). The NGC census is 20 coins in MS66 (two MS66 ★), nine in MS67, and a single example at MS68. Of the 42 submissions in MS66 at both leading services combined, CAC has given its approval to 13 in this grade and three finer.

Heritage Commentary: Replicating the Liberty Seated design across multiple denominations was a challenge, and on the half dime the figure of Liberty required a greater proportion of the planchet area. Liberty's foot extends nearly to the rim, and the neck is set deeply within the torso, allowing the engraver to execute the full design within the available space.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (1/2001). NGC ID# 232S, PCGS# 4319

1839-O Half Dime, MS65
No Drapery, Small O
None Finer at PCGS



98122 1839-O No Drapery MS65 PCGS. CAC. V-4. Both sides exhibit steel-gray toning, with more intense shades of champagne and russet to the right of Liberty. The obverse fields of this CAC-approved example are smooth, while the folds of the gown reveal some light chatter. The reverse is die clashed, especially around HALF DIME.

Variety: V-4, Small O reverse. This variety is readily identified by the date placement to the left. Star 9 is repunched, and the tip of the shield is centered over the 8 in the date. The dies are slightly rotated, a common situation for this issue.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports two in MS65 and none finer. The other PCGS example resides in the Law/Simpson collection. NGC shows The NGC census counts two in MS65, two MS66, and one MS67+. Three of the four MS65 submissions have CAC green approval stickers.

Heritage Commentary: The 1839-O half dime is fertile ground for the specialist, collectible and rich in varieties. Jack Marston, in collaboration with other New Orleans aficionados, identified 13 die marriages in his 2011 study published in the *Gobrecht Journal* (issue 112). Marston traced die shipments to New Orleans and demonstrated the use of single dies over multiple years.

Consignor Commentary: According to Al Blythe this is a common date, but few seem to have been submitted to PCGS, where only two MS65s are atop the chart.

Provenance: Purchased from John Albanese (3/2003). NGC ID# 232T, PCGS# 4320

1840-O No Drapery Half Dime, MS63
V-6, Transitional 'Open Bud' Reverse



98123 1840-O No Drapery MS63 PCGS. CAC. V-6, FS-901. Light brown toning blankets the obverse of this CAC-approved half dime. The left field reveals splashes of chocolate patina, while the reverse is largely brilliant. Both sides exhibit clashed dies, and some of HALF DIME is soft, typical for this die marriage.

Variety: V-6. This is the only die pair for the 1840-O No Drapery that employs the new transitional reverse design. The buds extending from the wreath are now split or open. In addition, the number of leaves on either side of DIME has changed from four to three. The lettering throughout is larger. This new reverse appears on subsequent half dimes until 1853. This variety is listed in the *Cherrypickers' Guide* as FS-901.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports five of this variety in MS63 and five finer (the finest one MS65), while NGC shows five in MS63 and three finer (the finest one MS66).

Heritage Commentary: Transitional designs within the Liberty Seated series always excite collectors, and, when combined with the rarity of the present die marriage, the situation rapidly becomes competitive. Gene Gardner appreciated the significance of the V-6 variety and included it as a separate entry in his personal photo book, which typically contained only the highest-graded representative of each date and mintmark.

Consignor Commentary: Open Bud transitional reverse, linking the 1840 obverse with the reverse adopted in 1841. Both dies are heavily clashed. Heavy die polishing on the obverse has practically obliterated the toes on Liberty's foot, as well as the lower part of the base that supports her. The die crack on the reverse mentioned in Blythe from the right stem to the denticles is present, and another one runs from the left ribbon to the denticles.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (2/2004). NGC ID# 232V, PCGS# 4322

1840-O No Drapery Half Dime, MS65
Tied for Second Finest Example



98124 1840-O No Drapery MS65 NGC. V-4. This Gem 1840-O No Drapery half dime displays rich shades of blue and green across the obverse. The strike reveals individual braids in the hair, and the stars are complete. The reverse mixes gray in the center with deep aqua at the rims.

Variety: V-4. The mintmark is small and round (this issue also comes with large and medium mintmarks), and stars 5 and 6 exhibit substantial recutting. The date is bold and slopes up from left to right.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports a single MS65, the sole highest example at that service. NGC shows only the present example in MS65 along with one MS66 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Our consignor consistently sought upgrades to his collection, with the present coin being representative. Gene Gardner acquired this coin in 2003, and when presented with the opportunity to purchase the MS66 NGC example in 2008, Gardner expanded his holdings to include both the finest and second finest known for the issue.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (10/2003). NGC ID# 232V, PCGS# 4322

1840 With Drapery Half Dime, MS65
Sharply Struck Example



98125 1840 Drapery MS65 PCGS. CAC. V-7. Near-perfect dies created this well-struck half dime, and the problems plaguing earlier issues are nowhere to be seen. The dentils are full, the star points are strong, and the dies are uncracked. The hands of time have delivered rich amber and gold toning on the obverse, while the reverse admits light green in the center.

Variety: V-7. This is the only die pair for the 1840 With Drapery half dime, an issue scarcer in all grades than its No Drapery counterpart.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports five submitted in MS65 with two finer. NGC data show 11 in MS65 (one MS65+ ★), and two each in MS66 and MS67 are finer.

Heritage Commentary: The year 1840 marks the transition from the No Drapery to the With Drapery design, and as a result varieties are numerous. The half dime, dime, and quarter of this year all come in both the old Christian Gobrecht design and the new motif, implemented by Robert Ball Hughes. As such, this is an intriguing year to collect, and the present coin would be an excellent start to an 1840 type set.

Provenance: Purchased from Kenneth Goldman (5/2003). NGC ID# 232W, PCGS# 4326

1840-O With Drapery Half Dime, AU58
New Orleans Series Key
Sole CAC Coin in This Grade



98126 1840-O Drapery AU58 PCGS. CAC. V-7. Undisturbed gray surfaces are surrounded by colorful toning among the stars and date, with hints of lemon to the left and deeper rust color to the right. This is a pleasing example for the grade, as indicated by the CAC certification. The reverse is more evenly toned with burgundy, olive, and golden hues distributed throughout the lettering at the rims.

Variety: V-7. The Valentine reference lists the V-5 as the sole With Drapery variety for this year, but in 1989 Bill Harmon published the V-7 variety in the *Gobrecht Journal* (issue 45). This variety is distinguished by two reverse die breaks, one running from the upper left serif of I in AMERICA to the rim, and another from the upper left of U in UNITED, proceeding diagonally into the space between a dentil pair.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports three submitted in AU58 and two finer. NGC data show nine and five in those respective grade levels. Of the dozen submissions in AU58, the present example is the sole coin with CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: In terms of rarity, four New Orleans half dime issues stand apart from the rest — the 1840-O With Drapery, 1844-O, 1849-O, and 1853-O No Arrows. All four of them have mintages of less than a quarter-million pieces, and in higher grades all are especially challenging. The present coin is no exception, with only seven Uncirculated examples reported by both services combined.

Provenance: Empire State Collection (Stack's, 1/1997), lot 499. NGC ID# 232X, PCGS# 4327

1841 Half Dime, MS65
Richly Toned Example



98127 1841 MS65 NGC. V-2. Deep steel-gray toning envelops both sides of this Gem half dime. Apart from some weakness in the obverse dentils to the left, the strike is strong.

Variety: V-2. The second 1 in the date is noticeably lower than the first. A tiny die lump appears between stars 10 and 11.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS shows 12 pieces in MS65 with 18 higher. NGC counts 26 in MS65 (one MS65+) and 14 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Seated coinage is marked by specific die characteristics on nearly every issue, and in the present case the obverse die marker between stars 10 and 11 is all that is needed to immediately attribute this pristine half dime.

Provenance: Morgan, Leckar, Columbia, and Time Capsule Collections and the Great Lakes Collection (Bowers & Merena, 11/1998), lot 1368. NGC ID# 232Y, PCGS# 4328

1841-O Half Dime, MS64
V-4, Multiple Reverse Die Cracks
Sole CAC Example in This Grade



98128 1841-O MS64 PCGS. CAC. V-4. Blended apple-green, lavender, and golden-brown encompass this flashy and fully struck near-Gem. The fields are clashed but unabraded. Despite a plentiful mintage, the 1841-O is an underappreciated rarity in Mint State.

Variety: V-4. The reverse features the Medium O mintmark and multiple die cracks, seen at U in UNITED, the first A in STATES, and the R and second A in AMERICA. A straight die clash line connects T(ES) to O(F).

Population Data (8/15): PCGS counts but four submissions in MS64 and three finer. NGC records three in near-Gem and four finer. Of the two services' seven submissions combined in MS64, only the present example boasts the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: The reverse die cracks alone allow attribution of this coin, a distinctive variety within the half dime series. Gene Gardner was fascinated with this die marriage, and over time acquired three examples in varying die states.

Provenance: Philadelphia Signature (Heritage, 8/2012), lot 3137. NGC ID# 232Z, PCGS# 4329

1841-O Seated Half Dime, MS66
Condition Census Example



98129 1841-O MS66 NGC. V-4. The obverse of this Premium Gem features light golden toning with scattered russet at the lower obverse and throughout the reverse. There are no notable marks. The dies are rough, and the surfaces are somewhat granular, as struck.

Variety: V-4, with the Medium O mintmark and extensive reverse die cracks.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports only the present example in MS66, but two MS67 are finer. PCGS shows none in this grade and one each in MS67 and MS67+ finer. The MS67+ PCGS coin resides in the Law/Simpson Collection, while the MS67 submission is a recent addition to the PCGS data and a possible duplication.

Heritage Commentary: The New Orleans Mint of the 1840s was desperate to extend die life, and as a result, the silver coinage of the period often exhibits various issues with cracked and eroding dies. The present example is one of the finest known survivors of the issue.

Consignor Commentary: This coin is the only MS66 graded at the services — there are four 67s. The dies are distinct. Both dies are heavily rusted, heavily clashed, and heavily lapped. I thought the reverse die had to be on its last legs with at least seven die cracks from the rim (both ends of the ribbon, through the U and between the T E in UNITED, through the A and second S in STATES, through the R in AMERICA) until I came into possession of another example (graded MS67 ★ by NGC) [no longer in the NGC data] where the cracks were much more severe and starting to develop cudlike features.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (8/1998). NGC ID# 232Z, PCGS# 4329

1842 Half Dime, MS66, Ex: Pittman
Heavily Clashed Reverse, Early-State Obverse



98130 1842 MS66 NGC. V-3. Ex: Pittman. Although under a loupe some pale mint-rose color shows, to the naked eye the obverse appears to be a rather uniform olive-gray color with much brilliance but no contrast between fields and devices. The reverse shows an untuned silver-white center accented against dusky gold and violet rim patina. Excellent preservation, a sharp strike, and shimmering luster prevail on both sides.

Variety: V-3. The date slopes down left to right, 84 are close together, the 1 scraping the base and the 2 a bit lower than the other digits. A very minor, almost unnoticeable break occurs in the rim below the 4. **Die State:** Bold, extensive die clashing shows on the reverse from TATES to OF, where portions of the incused date and bottom of the rock can be made out. More clashing shows in the center and lower reverse areas. Few die breaks are evident.

Population Data (8/15): The finest at NGC are seven MS66 and one MS67. PCGS reports five in MS66 (two MS66+).

Consignor Commentary: The Pittman coin, a well-struck, beautifully toned specimen. This must be an early strike as there are no die breaks evident, the stars show full radials, and Liberty's head is strong as well (there should undoubtedly be a "Full Head" designation for many coins in all the Liberty Seated series, especially for coins struck in New Orleans). Overall pleasing for the grade.

Provenance: John Jay Pittman from Barney Bluestone (11/1943) for \$1.25; Pittman Collection (Akers, 10/1997), lot 468; Heritage (7/2003), lot 6431. NGC ID# 2332, PCGS# 4330

1842-O Seated Half Dime, MS63
Conditionally Rare



98131 1842-O MS63 PCGS. V-1. This silver-gray example shows no hints of color. A few ticks occurring in the right field are in concert with the grade. The strike is soft on the head and the corresponding reverse area, where the knot is formed. Die clashing appears on the reverse, telltale horizontal line (created by the base of Liberty's rock) running from the second T in STATES to the O in OF.

Variety: V-1. Although Daniel Valentine in 1931 listed three varieties for the 1842-O half dime, research published by Mark Sheldon in collaboration with Steve Crain and others in the *Gobrecht Journal* issue 88, November 2003, indicates that only a single die pair was used for the issue. The authors enumerate five distinct die states for the production of 350,000 pieces.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS and NGC report, respectively, three each in MS63 with 10 and four finer.

Heritage Commentary: Strike issues are frequently seen in the Liberty Seated coinage of the early New Orleans Mint. Weak stars are common, and some emissions exhibit more issues than others, with the 1847-O quarter being notable in that respect. Regardless, the present example is close to the Condition Census, as collectors gave no special attention to high-grade branch mint coinage until much later in the 19th century.

Provenance: *Empire State Collection (Stack's, 1/1997), lot 251.* NGC ID# 256X, PCGS# 4331

1842-O Half Dime, MS63
Rim-Toned Example



98132 1842-O MS63 NGC. CAC. V-1. Pleasing toning is the hallmark of this CAC-approved Select Uncirculated half dime, with an iridescent band encircling the brilliant obverse center. The reverse is likewise brilliant and surrounded by a russet ring at the rim.

Variety: V-1. The Valentine reference lists three varieties for this date, but Mark Sheldon demonstrated in 2003 (*Gobrecht Journal*, issue 88) that a single die marriage was used, and that varieties previously attributed are actually varying states of the same die pair. This coin is Sheldon Die State 2, with a defect in the skirt above the 2 in the date and a reverse rim cud above OF.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports three in MS63 and 10 finer, while NGC shows three and four submitted in those levels.

Heritage Commentary: Early New Orleans half dimes are especially challenging in higher grades. Few were saved, and survivors as eye-appealing as this coin are strictly a matter of chance.

Provenance: *Purchased from Northeast Numismatics (2/1997).* NGC ID# 256X, PCGS# 4331

1842-O Half Dime, MS65
Crisply Struck Example



98133 1842-O MS65 PCGS. CAC. V-1. Consistent steel-gray toning blankets both sides of this Gem half dime. The reverse reveals a splash of more intense color at the lower right, and there is a toning dot at star 11 on the obverse. The strike is exceptional, with full star centers and well-defined knot loops at the base of the wreath.

Variety: V-1. Daniel W. Valentine, in his seminal 1931 monograph, reported three varieties for the 1842-O, but Mark Sheldon in the *Gobrecht Journal*, issue 88, November 2003, demonstrated that they are all varying states of a single die marriage. This example is Sheldon Die State 1, showing no obverse depressions and no reverse cuds.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports four submitted in MS65 and a single MS66 finer. NGC shows one and two in those same grades.

Heritage Commentary: Of the eight pieces at PCGS and NGC in the Gem level and above, Gene Gardner owned three, not to mention two additional pieces in MS64. Collectors such as Louis Eliasberg were satisfied to have a single example of each issue, but Gardner sought out different die varieties and die states as well, and his notes reveal that he spent considerable time ordering his 1842-O half dimes in terms of die state progression.

Provenance: Pre-Long Beach (Goldberg Auctions, 6/2002), lot 2058. NGC ID# 256X, PCGS# 4331

1842-O Half Dime, MS66
Tied For Finest Known



98134 1842-O MS66 NGC. CAC. V-1. This Premium Gem is bright and satiny with significant reflectivity in the fields. There is a blush of golden color over both sides, but the overall appearance is essentially one of brilliance. A few small toning spots are visible under a loupe, but the surfaces of this example are free of mentionable abrasions.

Variety: V-1. A heavily illustrated 13-page research article that Mark Sheldon published in the *Gobrecht Journal*, issue 88 of November 2003, showed that the three varieties enumerated by Daniel Valentine in 1931 were varying states produced from a single pair of dies. Sheldon and his collaborators accounted for five distinct die states. This coin is Sheldon Die State 1, noticeably free of many of the die defects that plague the issue in later states.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports a single MS66 and none finer, while NGC shows this piece and one other submission in MS66, also with none finer.

Heritage Commentary: This coin has much to recommend — near-perfect dies, strong technical grade, CAC approval, and its status as tied for the finest known example. Considering that the coin originated in the New Orleans Mint, a facility challenged by constant technical difficulty, these attributes are all the more remarkable.

The MS66 PCGS example that Gene Gardner refers to below, a V-2, brought \$18,800 as lot 98163 in our Gardner Part III Signature (Heritage, 5/2015).

Consignor Commentary: V-1 and one of the semikeys to the series, R.6 in Mint State according to Al Blythe, and the population reports bear that out. This coin is one of two MS66 examples at NGC atop a sole coin graded MS65. The population at PCGS is equally small with one MS66 coin (which is also in my collection) and four pieces in MS65. For a New Orleans issue this is quite sharply struck, and the fields are clean, free from what seems like ever-present rust from this mint.

Provenance: Purchased directly from Heritage (8/2001). NGC ID# 256X, PCGS# 4331

1843 Seated Half Dime, MS66
V-6, Repunched Digits



98135 1843 MS66 PCGS. V-6. This steel-gray Premium Gem exhibits smooth surfaces and well-struck design elements. The obverse dentils are soft in the upper-left quadrant, and there are die scratches around star 6. The toning is even and reveals olive patches in a few of the protected areas.

Variety: V-6, with repunching in the 1 and 8 of the date.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports nine in MS66 (one MS66+) and three MS67 (two MS67+). NGC shows 10 MS66 and a single MS67 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Repunched dates are a common occurrence in the Liberty Seated series and could easily form their own collecting specialty. In the present case, the 1 as originally punched nearly touches the dentils, and the second attempt was more evenly placed in the exergue.

Provenance: *Purchased directly from Heritage (8/2001).* NGC ID# 2334, PCGS# 4332

1844 Seated Half Dime, MS65
Collectible Type Coin



98136 1844 MS65 PCGS. CAC. V-2. This lightly toned Gem half dime is a pleasing example of the issue, featuring golden toning over Liberty with maroon splashed in the contrasting fields. A few marks consistent with the grade are hidden within the central figure, and a curved line shows just inside star 11. The reverse exhibits a brilliant center surrounded by russet with scattered patches of blue.

Variety: V-2. The tip of the shield is centered over the 1, and the date slopes up from left to right. John McCloskey, past president of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club, presented an analysis of the three 1844 half dime varieties in issue 60 of the *Gobrecht Journal*.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 14 submitted in MS65 and 32 finer. NGC enumerates 28 in Gem and 14 finer. This is one of only four in MS65 with the CAC green bean.

Heritage Commentary: Not all the coins in the Gardner cabinet are five- and six-figure rarities; our consignor acquired this piece for \$577.50 in 1998. The present piece is “a lot of coin for the money,” combining eye appeal, collectibility, provenance, and high technical grade. Moreover, the CAC verification attests to its status as an especially desirable example within the assigned grade.

Provenance: *Globus and Shulman Collections (Stack's, 12/1998), lot 1239.* NGC ID# 2335, PCGS# 4333

1844-O Half Dime, MS64
Finest Certified at NGC



98137 1844-O MS64 NGC. V-1. Blue-green shading covers the figure of Liberty on this near-Gem half dime. The richly colored center gives way to a ring of burgundy above the stars and below the date. The head is full and the star centers — a perennial stumbling block at the New Orleans Mint — are needle-sharp. A stray mark at the left (facing) wrist precludes the Gem designation. The reverse is gray, with silver highlights in the protected areas.

Variety: V-1, with a Medium O mintmark.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports only this single coin in MS64 and none graded higher. PCGS accounts for three in MS64 and a single MS65+ finer (which may/may not be the Eliasberg piece discussed below).

Heritage Commentary: This MS64 NGC example compares favorably with the MS65 PCGS-CAC ex: Eliasberg coin, which Gene Gardner also acquired. While the MS65 coin exhibits substantial eye appeal, the present example represents a strong strike for the issue. Which is better? Gardner solved the problem by procuring both coins, and we heartily recommend our bidders consider the same strategy. The Eliasberg coin brought \$21,150 as lot 98188 in our Gardner Part II Signature (Heritage, 10/2014).

Provenance: Purchased from Benchmark Ventures (2/2003). NGC ID# 2336, PCGS# 4334

1845 Half Dime, MS64
FS-302, Double-Punched Date



98138 1845 MS64 ANACS. V-5, FS-302. Azure hues outline Liberty on this near-Gem half dime. Gold-toned devices emerge from the fields, and this two-toned effect is replicated on the reverse as the wreath and letters contrast with splashes of blue-green in the fields. A few marks about the head limit the technical grade, but the eye appeal remains.

Variety: V-5, FS-302, with a distinctive date sloping down from left to right, then abruptly rising at the final digit. Daniel Valentine considered this to be an 1845/1843 overdate, but Al Blythe's *Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Half Dimes* (1992) catalogs the variety as an 1845/1845, an opinion shared by our consignor.

Population Data (8/15): Between NGC and PCGS, each service has seen about 90 submitted in MS64 and 90 finer. ANACS reports three pieces in MS64 with no coins higher at that service.

Heritage Commentary: This is a distinctive, collectible variety within the Liberty Seated half dime series. Many varieties require a strong glass to identify, but the V-5 can be discerned with the naked eye. Al Blythe suggests a premium of 20%-25% for this visually interesting overdate.

Provenance: Hubert Remick Collection (*Stack's*, 9/1997), lot 654. NGC ID# 2337, PCGS# 4335

1847 Seated Half Dime, MS66
Sharply Struck Example



98139 1847 MS66 NGC. V-4. This Premium Gem features intermixed shades of blue and gray with hints of rose at the upper portion of the obverse. The best-executed Liberty Seated coinage of the 1840s exhibits deeply impressed elements, and the present coin is a worthy representative with stars and lettering substantially raised above the plane of the fields.

Variety: V-4, showing the first three date digits touching the rock. The shield tip points to the flag of 1 in the date. While these characteristics match those Daniel W. Valentine described in *The United States Half Dimes* (1931), forthcoming research from Steve Crain is expected to reexamine the varieties (and attributions) for the 1847 issue.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 14 submitted in MS66 and six MS67 (one MS67+) finer. NGC counts 15 in MS66 (one MS66 ★) and four finer, the finest a lone MS68.

Heritage Commentary: The date punches used in this year were the largest yet employed for the half dimes, leaving little empty space between the rims and the base of the rock.

Consignor Commentary: A pristine, well-struck, unmarked beauty, which, at the last moment, replaced a coin in this set graded MS67 ★ by NGC, giving you some idea of how highly I regard it. A lovely coin with strong eye appeal.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (10/2003). NGC ID# 2339, PCGS# 4337

1849 Half Dime, MS67
Better-Date Issue



98140 1849 MS67 NGC. V-3. This Superb Gem is predominantly frosty in texture, and the surfaces reveal glints of brightness in the fields at select angles. A dusting of golden-gray patina appears over both sides, a little more intense on the reverse, as well as iridescent peripheral crescents of cobalt-blue and lavender. A vertical toning line bisects the reverse to the left. An exquisite coin in terms of both technical quality and aesthetic appeal.

Variety: V-3. The date is slightly high in the field but does not touch the base of Liberty.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports 10 submitted in MS66 (one with a Star) 11 finer. The finest at PCGS are six MS66 (one MS66+).

Heritage Commentary: Mintage of half dimes peaked in 1849, then fell in subsequent years due to the relative oversupply of gold. After the weight of the half dime was reduced in 1853, substantial mintages resumed.

Consignor Commentary: This coin is virtually perfect, although there are a few die polish lines on both the obverse and the reverse, especially at the bottom of the reverse. Blythe declares it a slightly better date and rates it R.4 in Mint State.

Provenance: Thomas H. Sebring (*American Numismatic Rarities*, 1/2004), lot 1352; ANA Signature (*Heritage*, 7/2005), lot 5776; FUN Signature (*Heritage*, 1/2008), lot 892. NGC ID# 233D, PCGS# 4341

1849/6 Half Dime, MS66
Finest Example of the Variety



98141 1849 Repunched Date MS66 NGC. V-2, FS-302. This Premium Gem exhibits deep evergreen toning on the obverse while the reverse is more varied with reddish-orange shades scattered in the wreath. Smooth surfaces emit luster commensurate with the high technical grade.

Variety: V-2. FS-302 in the *Cherrypickers' Guide*.

Population Data (8/15): The finest at PCGS are five in MS65, while the NGC census for the FS-302 variety (which that service terms an 1849/8) is three pieces in MS65 with no coins higher (the certification for this coin does not state the attribution but does identify it as 1849/6).

Heritage Commentary: Experts differ on exactly what is punched underneath the 9 in the date, but what is clear is that two distinct overdates exist. The FS-301 exhibits a thick date with a multiply punched 4, while the FS-302 has a thinner date with remnants of another digit well to the right of the 9.

Consignor Commentary: V-2. The date matches the photograph in Blythe. The base of the 4 is doubled, and the 9 shows almost all elements of an underlying 6 — at the base of the 9, in the opening of the loop, and on the midsection of the 9 itself. There is a minor die crack on the obverse from the top of Liberty's head to the denticles, but the more interesting ones are on the reverse. One crack at 6 o'clock runs up through the middle of the left stem to the wreath, and another at 7 o'clock runs up between the U and N in UNITED through the wreath to the base of the D in DIME. The third starts at 11 o'clock in the denticles, runs down between the S and T in STATES, on through the wreath, skirts the H in HALF, and winds up in the D in DIME.

Provenance: Pre-Long Beach (Goldberg Auctions, 6/2002), lot 2063. NGC ID# 233D, PCGS# 145432 Base PCGS# 4343

1849/6 Overdate Half Dime, MS64
Very Rare at This Grade Level



98142 1849 Repunched Date MS64 PCGS. CAC. V-1, FS-301. This CAC-approved half dime is a brilliant, silver-gray example with only a hint of color underlining TAT on the reverse. A few scattered ticks are consistent with the grade, and the relief is strong; the stars, digits, and letters were deeply impressed on the dies.

Variety: V-1, listed in the *Cherrypicker's Guide* as FS-301. Specialists disagree whether this variety is an 1849/8, 1849/9, or 1849/6. The curved digit remnant to the west of the lower loop of the 9 inspires varied interpretations.

Population Data (8/15): The PCGS population for all 1849/6 half dimes is six pieces in MS64 and five finer examples, all MS65. The NGC census for the FS-301 variety is six pieces in MS64 and nine coins higher.

Heritage Commentary: Tom DeLorey presented analysis of the 1849 overdate half dimes in the *Gobrecht Journal* (issue 33). DeLorey felt all such pieces were 1849/6s but acknowledged disagreements with fellow experts Bill Fivaz and Kam Ahwash.

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2010), lot 644. NGC ID# 233D, PCGS# 4342

1849-O Half Dime, Elusive MS64



98143 1849-O MS64 PCGS. V-2. The surfaces display primarily rose-gray color with soft luster and some subtle hints of iridescence. A couple of hairline-thin marks show in the right field between Liberty's elbow and star 10. A softly detailed coin but one lacking major problems.

Variety: V-2, showing "imperfections" (extra star points) at stars 5 and 9-13. The date is heavy. Most of the stars and the central figure lack deep detail, either from a soft strike or die wear. Large O mintmark. Tiny die cracks appear above T in UNITED and M in AMERICA. Minor roughness shows in the fields below S OF.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports eight submissions in MS64 along with a single MS66 finer. NGC shows five in MS64 with three each in MS65 (one Star-designated) and MS66. It is highly doubtful that those all represent separate coins.

Heritage Commentary: All New Orleans Seated coinage dated 1849 is elusive in a general sense regardless of denomination, even though there are a few higher-graded examples of this issue around than the present coin. The low mintage of 1849-O half dimes was a meager 140,000 pieces, making the issue extremely elusive in Mint State. Gene Gardner also owned an MS65 NGC coin. That piece was lot 30196 in our Gardner Part I Signature (Heritage, 6/2014), where it realized \$7,638.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence (1/2010). NGC ID# 233E, PCGS# 4344

1850 Half Dime, MS67
Only One Example Finer



98144 1850 MS67 PCGS. CAC. V-3. This attractively toned Superb Gem features rich golden hues at the obverse rim, converging to blue-green and lighter rose at the center. The reverse is a more even gray with forest-green at the periphery, and the luster booms through the toning on both sides.

Variety: V-3. The 1 in the date touches the base, while the other digits show separation. A reverse die scratch extends from the left side of wreath to the rim, between D of UNITED and the first S of STATES.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 10 submissions in MS67 (two MS67+) and one MS68 finer. NGC accounts for seven in MS67 and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: Examples such as the present coin are the essence of the Gardner Collection — superbly detailed, originally toned, and pleasing from the first glance.

Consignor Commentary: With 17 coins graded MS67 and one higher at MS68 this is not the most challenging coin, but it would be difficult to find one with toning as lovely as this piece.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (2/2004). NGC ID# 233F, PCGS# 4345

1850-O Half Dime, Fully Struck MS63



98145 1850-O MS63 NGC. V-2. Peach-orange and lavender tones color this otherwise brilliant, softly lustrous Select O-mint half dime. The devices are fully struck, and the typically mushy dentils are completely delineated on both sides. Light clash marks occur in the upper obverse fields. A splendid representative of the type.

Variety: Valentine-2, with a Large O mintmark. Die cracks encompass the obverse stars and extend from the serifs of the U in UNITED to the rims. There is a small die defect between stars 10 and 11.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 10 submitted in MS63 and 13 finer. PCGS has seen four Select submissions and 10 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Half dime output reached 690,000 coins at the New Orleans Mint in 1850. A.G. Heaton's *A Treatise on the Coinage of the United States Branch Mints* (1893) explains: "The 1850 has a large O and a small o, the latter being very rare." All Mint State survivors rare, regardless of mintmark. NGC ID# 233G, PCGS# 4346

1850-O Half Dime, MS66
Only One Coin Finer



98146 1850-O MS66 PCGS. CAC. V-2. Antique-gray envelops this half dime, with scattered shades of light russet at the lower obverse and hints of powder-blue on the reverse. The surfaces are unblemished, and the CAC approval attests to the overall eye appeal.

Variety: V-2. Large O, with an obverse defect between stars 10 and 11. The reverse exhibits light clashing.

Population Data (4/15): PCGS and NGC each report two in MS66 with one MS67 finer at PCGS, none at NGC.

Heritage Commentary: In lower grades the 1850-O is priced similarly to a common date half dime, but at the Uncirculated level, the situation rapidly changes. Populations enter the single digits and competition for the finest coins, such as a present example, becomes fierce.

Consignor Commentary: A much earlier strike with sharp details and no die cracks visible.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (3/2003). NGC ID# 233G, PCGS# 4346

1851-O Half Dime, MS65
The Eliasberg Coin
Sole CAC Example in This Grade



98147 1851-O MS65 PCGS. CAC. V-2. Ex: Eliasberg. This Gem half dime exhibits charcoal-gray on the obverse with deeper tones left of the rock and from stars 11 to 13. The reverse toning is more varied with hues of gold, russet, and blue-green. The CAC approval attests to the eye appeal of this lustrous example.

Variety: V-2. The date is high; all digits touch the base except for the 8.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS accounts for four submitted in MS65, two in MS66, and one MS66+. NGC records 10 in MS65, five MS66, and a single MS67. Of the nine in MS65 at both services, this sole example is CAC-approved. The Eliasberg pedigree is, of course, another obvious plus.

Heritage Commentary: The 1851-O issue is among the more available New Orleans half dimes in Mint State, but it remains much more elusive than its Philadelphia counterpart of the same year, as do nearly all half dimes issued in New Orleans.

Provenance: J.M. Clapp Collection, probably acquired in the early 1890s; Clapp Estate (1942); Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; Eliasberg Collection (Bowers & Merena, 5/1996), lot 983. NGC ID# 233J, PCGS# 4348

1853 With Arrows Half Dime, MS66
Strongly Clashed Dies



98148 1853 Arrows MS66 PCGS. CAC. This silver-white Premium Gem half dime exhibits blushes of smoky-gray in the right obverse field and within the upper wreath to the left on the reverse. The dies are deeply clashed, and remnants of the reverse lettering appear to the right of Liberty.

Variety: Walter Breen summed up the attribution situation for this issue in the *Coin Collector's Journal* (1958), noting that with 78 obverses and 80 reverses, "Valentine's attempt to describe varieties is futile." The heavy clashing on this coin is not noted by Valentine for any varieties of this date.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 40 in MS66 (two MS66+) and nine in MS67 (one MS67+). NGC notes 48 pieces in MS66 (including Plus- and Star-designated submissions) and 23 in MS67 (eight with the Star). This is one of 10 in this grade with the CAC green approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: The mintage for this issue was more than 13 million pieces, dwarfing the rest of the Liberty Seated half dime series. The closest competitor is the 1854, for which more than 5 million were struck.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (2/2004). NGC ID# 233Y, PCGS# 4356

1853-O With Arrows Half Dime, MS66
Only Two Examples Finer



98149 1853-O Arrows MS66 PCGS. CAC. V-3. A panoply of speckled toning bathes the obverse of this richly toned Premium Gem. Tan, brown, and navy grace both the fields and devices. The upper portion of the reverse is brilliant, with occasional shades of olive, while the remainder exhibits hues of indigo and charcoal. The reverse exhibits a few clash marks within DIME, but this Condition Census example is largely free of die defects often seen in the Seated half dime series. The CAC approval confirms the aesthetic appeal.

Variety: V-3. The left arrowhead touches the base, while the right arrowhead is clear. The mintmark is placed to the right side of the bow.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports four in MS66 and two finer, both MS67. NGC records three in MS66 and none finer. Four in MS66 and two in MS67 have the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: Adding arrows at the date presented a struggle for the Mint, and the placement and size variations employed from 1853 to 1855 reflect the challenge. The arrowheads are high on this variety, with the left arrow running into the base.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (2/2004). NGC ID# 233Z, PCGS# 4357

1854 With Arrows Half Dime, MS66
Three-Year Type Coin



98150 1854 Arrows MS66 PCGS. CAC. V-2. A high-quality representative of the With Arrows type. Both sides of this Premium Gem present a well-struck, fully original appearance. Medium shades of dove-gray patina do not obscure the frosty, underlying luster. A few horizontal striation marks appear under close examination on the obverse.

Variety: V-2. The date is high and adjacent to the base, while the arrowheads extend to the dentils.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 12 in MS66 (one MS66+) and a sole MS67 finer. NGC accounts for 20 in MS66 four in MS67.

Heritage Commentary: The Mint lowered the silver content of the half dime in 1853 and placed arrows on either side of the date until 1855 in order to signify the weight change. The reduction brought the bullion content of silver coinage back into parity with gold, greatly aiding the circulation of small silver coins. The Arrows motif would endure only through 1855.

Provenance: Baltimore Signature (Heritage, 7/2003), lot 6438. NGC ID# 2342, PCGS# 4358

1854 With Arrows Half Dime, MS67
Tied for Finest Known



98151 1854 Arrows MS67 NGC. V-2. Light gold toning graces the obverse of this Superb Gem, while the reverse is fully brilliant. The central device features clash marks from the reverse wreath, and the reverse displays a similar effect, exhibiting a faint outline of the figure of Liberty. The smooth fields are virtually flawless, as expected for this elevated grade level.

Variety: V-2. The left arrow touches the dentils and is close to the flag of 1, all digits touch the base, and the right arrow shaft is above the crosslet of the 4.

Population Data (8/15): NGC records four submitted in MS67 and none finer. The finest at PCGS is a sole MS67.

Heritage Commentary: The Mint Act of 1853 reduced the silver content of the half dime by more 7%, restoring parity with gold coinage. Mintages of half dimes in 1853 and 1854 represented the highest two years in the series, respectively. This extensive output makes the technical grade of this coin all the more remarkable, tied for the finest known from a high initial mintage.

Gene Gardner also owned an MS67 PCGS-CAC example of this issue, which was offered as lot 98173 in our Gardner Part III Signature (Heritage, 5/2015), where it realized \$15,275.

Provenance: Purchased from John B. Hamrick (3/2004). NGC ID# 2342, PCGS# 4358

1854-O With Arrows Half Dime, MS66
Iridescent Rainbow Toning



98152 1854-O Arrows MS66 NGC. V-1. Both sides of this Premium Gem exhibit multihued rim color, a toning scheme that is a perennial favorite among collectors of classic silver. The obverse features red, gold, and green, while the reverse is more delicate with lighter rings of blue-green and champagne. Clash marks extend from both arms of the central figure.

Variety: V-1. All numerals and the right arrow touch the base.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports four MS66 and three MS67. PCGS accounts for a single MS66 and two finer, both MS67.

Heritage Commentary: The large numeral punches and the addition of arrows in 1853 caused spacing problems in the exergue. The present case is a textbook example, with the high date substantially overlapping the rock base.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (10/2003). NGC ID# 2343, PCGS# 4359

1855 Arrows Half Dime, MS65
Rainbow-Toned Gem



98153 1855 Arrows MS65 NGC. CAC. V-4. A rainbow of color covers the obverse of this half dime, with aqua at the stars melding into vivid lemon and gold at the center. The reverse of this CAC-approved piece is medium gray with overtones of blue-green. The undisturbed surfaces reveal no marks of note, and the eye appeal is strong for the grade.

Variety: V-4. A die crack bisects the entire reverse, running from N in UNITED to M in AMERICA.

Population Data (4/15): NGC reports 28 submitted in MS65 (one MS65+) and 17 finer. PCGS accounts for 27 and 16 finer.

Heritage Commentary: This coin would be ideal for a type set, illustrating the Arrows type with an attractively toned Gem example.

Provenance: *Pre-Long Beach Auction (Goldberg Auctions, 6/2002)*, lot 2080. NGC ID# 2344, PCGS# 4360

1855-O Arrows Half Dime, MS65
Advanced Die State



98154 1855-O Arrows MS65 PCGS. CAC. V-1a. A crescent of russet frames the obverse of this Arrows half dime, with pleasing gold and gray covering the remainder of this CAC-approved example. The center reverse is brilliant, with streaks of silver penetrating the burgundy legend.

Variety: V-1a. Valentine gives only one die marriage for this issue, and the obverse cracks indicate the die state.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS shows nine in MS65 and three finer (the finest one MS67+). NGC enumerates 25 in MS65 and seven finer — five MS66, none in MS67, and two MS68.

Heritage Commentary: The obverse die is in a near-terminal state, with a crack passing through the head of Liberty and the stars. Another crack connects the arrows and date, and a third runs from the right foot to the rim. The 1855-O survives in high grades in relative abundance for an O-mint half dime issue.

Provenance: *ANA Auction (Bowers & Merena, 8/2000)*, lot 1041. NGC ID# 2345, PCGS# 4361

1856 Half Dime, MS66
Richly Toned Example



98155 1856 MS66 NGC. CAC. V-6. Tones of tan, russet, lemon, and silver swirl across the surfaces of this Premium Gem half dime. The reverse is more evenly toned but still exhibits a variety of hues, with light brown in the center leading to a charcoal ring at the edge. The surfaces are smooth, their aesthetic appeal confirmed by the CAC approval.

Variety: V-6, with the date sloping up from left to right.

Population Data (8/15): NGC accounts for 38 grading events in MS66, five in MS67, and one MS68. PCGS data show 11 in MS66 (two MS66+) and one MS68. The two MS68s, one each at NGC and PCGS, are demonstrably the same coin, formerly in the Gardner Collection as well.

Heritage Commentary: Valentine notes that the dentils on 1856 half dimes are always soft, and that is certainly the case on both obverse and reverse of this coin.

Provenance: John and Rebecca Moores (Sotheby's, 11/1999), lot 118. NGC ID# 233P, PCGS# 4363

1856-O Half Dime, MS65
Condition Census Example



98156 1856-O MS65 PCGS. V-2. Ex: Eliasberg. This half dime exhibits antique-gray and light brown on the obverse, while the reverse features more intense gray toning with silver streaks running across the surface. Luster penetrates the color throughout and adds to the eye appeal of the Gem example. Certified in a green-label holder.

Variety: V-2. A faint crack runs through the stars 11 to 13, and the lower loop of 5 in the date is closed.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS accounts for two in MS65 and three in MS66 (one MS66+). NGC enumerates six MS65 and three MS66 (two MS66+) finer.

Heritage Commentary: A finer provenance for a Liberty Seated coin can hardly be imagined — between the Eliasberg and Gardner collections nearly every coin in the series is represented in the highest condition.

Provenance: Eliasberg Collection (Bowers & Merena, 5/1996), lot 998; purchased from Bowers & Merena (8/2002). NGC ID# 233R, PCGS# 4364

1856-O Seated Half Dime, MS66
Near-Finest Known Example



98157 1856-O MS66 NGC. V-1. Blue-green toning blankets Liberty on this Premium Gem, fading to lighter shades of maroon and gold among the stars. The reverse exhibits a more uniform dusky color with hints of evergreen. The obverse dentils are slightly soft, but the star centers are defined and the hair braids are delineated.

Variety: V-1. The 8 and 5 in the date are close and high, while the 1 and 6 descend slightly below the interior digits.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports this piece in MS66 and two others in MS66+, while PCGS shows two in MS66 and one other in MS66+.

Heritage Commentary: Branch mint coinage of this era, even for common dates, did not survive in substantial quantities at the Uncirculated level. Collectors were typically located in eastern cities and took little notice of mintmarks. Mint State 1856-O half dimes are today more highly prized than their Philadelphia counterparts, and at this elevated level considerably more challenging. PCGS and NGC combined report 55 submissions of the 1856 half dime in MS66, and, for the New Orleans issue of the same year, the number dwindles to six coins.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (2/2007). NGC ID# 233R, PCGS# 4364

1857 Half Dime, MS65
Early NGC Holder With CAC Approval



98158 1857 MS65 NGC. CAC. V-2. Speckled olive toning overlies the golden-gray surfaces of this Gem half dime. Areas of underlying mint brilliance further the appeal. The reverse toning of this CAC-approved example is similar, if a touch lighter in shade. Housed in an NGC no-line fatty holder.

Variety: V-2. The date is slightly high in the field, with the 1 closest to the base.

Population Data (8/15): NGC and PCGS respectively report 68 and 45 in higher grades.

Heritage Commentary: The Mint experimented with digit punches during this era. The 1857 half dimes feature both open and close-looped 5s, while the 1856 gold dollar exhibited both slant and upright 5s. Additionally, the upper flag of 5 on the 1857 half dime is more curved than that of the previous year.

Provenance: 60th Anniversary Sale (Stack's, 10/1995), lot 301. NGC ID# 233S, PCGS# 4365

1858 Half Dime, MS67
Lovely Iridescent Toning



98159 1858 MS67 PCGS. CAC. V-5. Booming luster highlights the multihued surfaces of this Superb Gem. Both sides present a pleasing mix of gold, russet, and blue-green on this CAC-approved example. The strike is strong overall, and nearly all star centers are defined.

Variety: V-5. The shield point is substantially to the left of 1 in the date, and a die crack connects stars 11-13.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS enumerates 15 submitted in MS67 (one MS67+) and one MS68 finer. NGC counts 28 in MS67 (three MS67 ★) and four in MS68 (one MS68 ★). This is one of eight in MS67 with the CAC green approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: Gene Gardner did not mind having multiple examples of a single issue, especially when the additional piece demonstrated a die variety, distinct die state, or was exceptional in some other way. The present V-5 has a distinct date placement, and its attractive toning makes it a worthy member of a collection that also comprised a coin graded MS68 by NGC, and a third graded MS67 by PCGS.

Consignor Commentary: While five coins of this date have been graded MS68 (including one at PCGS), this example, although an MS67, is certainly no slouch. This is a V-5 with the shield pointing well to the left of the 1 in the date. The die crack mentioned in Valentine does connect the last three stars, but the one connecting the first three is not yet in evidence. There is a die line on the reverse that I have seen on other coins and is undoubtedly due to clashing. It is a clear, sharp line that starts in the leaf to the right of the bow, zigzags up to and then under the E in DIME, continues on past the F in HALF, then finally back to the wreath.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (10/2003). NGC ID# 233U, PCGS# 4367

1858 Half Dime, MS67
Sharply Struck Example



98160 1858 MS67 NGC. CAC. V-1. Well-struck and nearly mark-free with little of the frequently seen central softness of this date. This Superb Gem displays excellent luster and gorgeous deep purple-rose toning on both sides. A few faint clash marks appear in the upper reverse field.

Variety: V-1. The shield tip points to the left edge of the flag in 1, while the pendant is aligned with the right edge of the nearly closed 5. The date is high within the field between the base and rim.

Population Data (8/15): NGC counts 28 grading events in MS67 (three MS67 ★) and four in MS68 (one MS68 ★). PCGS enumerates 15 in MS67 (one MS67+) and one MS68 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Breen's *Encyclopedia* notes that the hub was retouched for Philadelphia and New Orleans half dimes of 1857 and 1858, and for New Orleans issues of 1859. The most visible effect is the defect at the innermost point of star 3.

Provenance: New York Signature (Heritage, 11/2003), 5934; Central States Signature (Heritage, 4/2012), lot 3724. NGC ID# 233U, PCGS# 4367

1858 Half Dime, MS64
Popular Inverted Date Variety



98161 1858 Over Inverted Date MS64 PCGS. FS-302. Olive and gray encircle the figure of Liberty on the obverse, and the reverse is similarly toned. The overdate is bold, a result of first punching the date upside-down into the die, and then repunching with the correct orientation.

Variety: FS-302 in the Cherrypickers' Guide, which comments: "Although one of the most well-known varieties of the series, and very spectacular, this can still be cherrypicked at times. This variety is very rare, and more difficult to locate than the 1858 repunched date." This variety was unlisted in the Daniel Valentine reference (1931), being discovered by Jesse Patrick in 1963. Walter Breen published the coin in the April 1966 *Whitman Numismatic Journal*, and in 1971 the coin was first listed in the *Guide Book*, where it remains today.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS accounts for five in MS64 and five finer. NGC shows three in MS64 and five finer.

Heritage Commentary: This is a collectible variety, priced higher than a regular issue, but not extraordinarily so. The inverted date is easily visible to the naked eye, an important factor in elevating a variety to *Guide Book* status.

Consignor Commentary: Inverted date, with the digits of the date initially struck upside down, and now showing clearly between the finally impressed 1 8 5 8. Even the base of the upside-down 1 shows just to the right of the last 8. An interesting but not especially rare coin (R.5 in Mint State in Blythe), which rates its own listing and coin number by PCGS and NGC. This piece is quite well-struck and shows no major flaws, a real beauty.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (2/2004). NGC ID# 233U, PCGS# 4368

1859 Half Dime, MS67
The Eliasberg Coin



98162 1859 MS67 PCGS. CAC. V-2. Ex: Eliasberg. Gold, evergreen, and coffee shades weave through the stars and date of this Superb Gem. The reverse exhibits azure throughout, and the CAC approval attests to the visual appeal of this lustrous, near-Condition Census example.

Variety: V-2. The date is low within the field, and the pendant is aligned with the right side of the 5.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 28 submitted in MS67 and five finer, all MS68. NGC accounts for 18 in MS67 and four in MS68 finer. This is one of 14 in MS67 with the CAC green bean.

Heritage Commentary: The Mint used a new obverse hub for half dimes in 1859, designed by Mint assistant engraver Anthony Paquet, showing slight differences including hollow star centers, thinner arms, and a flatter base that extends just beyond the foot to the right.

Provenance: Eliasberg Collection (Bowers & Merena, 5/1996), lot 1006; purchased from Joseph O'Connor (12/2003). NGC ID# 233W, PCGS# 4371

1859-O Half Dime, MS64

Ex: Eliasberg



98163 1859-O MS64 PCGS. CAC. V-3. Ex: Eliasberg. Variegated shades of lilac and gray fill the obverse of this half dime from the famed Eliasberg Collection. The reverse color is more intense, showing overtones of blue-green covering the bow. There are no marks of note, consistent with the assigned grade and subsequent CAC approval.

Variety: V-3. Valentine describes only one obverse die for this issue, and the reverse die crack above I in AMERICA identifies this die pair.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 23 in MS64 (one MS64+) and 11 finer. NGC counts 32 in MS64 (one MS64+) and 18 finer.

Heritage Commentary: While the Eliasberg Collection surely represented the greatest collection of Seated coinage ever offered at the time, many of the branch mint issues were not collected in the highest grades. Gene Gardner persisted in constant upgrading, and, in the present case, eventually acquired two additional examples of this issue, both graded MS66.

Provenance: Louis E. Eliasberg (Bowers & Merena, 5/1996), lot 1007. NGC ID# 233X, PCGS# 4370

1859-O Half Dime, MS66

Tied for Finest CAC Example



98164 1859-O MS66 PCGS. CAC. V-2. Splashes of aqua-green, golden-tan, and lilac grace the obverse of this CAC-approved example, while aqua-green and greenish-gold dominate the reverse. Well-struck with lustrous and gorgeously undisturbed surfaces.

Variety: V-2. The H in HALF touches the wreath, and the mintmark is slightly right of center.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports four in MS66 (one MS66+) and none finer, while NGC accounts for five MS66 and a lone MS67. This MS66 is one of three in this grade with the CAC approval, and there are none finer.

Heritage Commentary: The Gardner Collection included two MS66 examples of this date, and Gene Gardner's notes make clear that he was pursuing different die varieties, as the other piece represented the V-3 die marriage. While not a complete Valentine set, this aspect of the Gardner Collection distinguishes it from other famous half dime sets, which were more likely focused on a single example of each date and mintmark.

Provenance: ANA Signature (Heritage, 8/2007), lot 490; Central States Signature (Heritage, 4/2008), lot 531. NGC ID# 233X, PCGS# 4370

1860 Half Dime, MS66
Vibrantly Toned Example



98165 1860 MS66 NGC. V-2. Colorful toning distinguishes this Premium Gem half dime, with an obverse crescent of blue-green offset by reddish-brown to the upper left. The reverse exhibits a brilliant center with azure at the upper rim and golden-brown below. The surfaces are smooth and the aesthetic appeal is strong.

Variety: V-2. The date is vertically placed in the middle of the field, and both ends of the ribbon, extending from the knot, touch the wreath.

Population Data (8/15): NGC accounts for 69 in MS66 (one MS66+) and 29 finer. PCGS reports 66 grading events in MS66 (four MS66+) and 47 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The Mint reworked the half dime design in 1860, replacing the obverse stars with UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, and expanding the wreath on the reverse. Punches for the digits and letters are thinner, and the overall appearance is more delicate.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (11/1998). NGC ID# 2347, PCGS# 4377

1860 Half Dime, MS67
First Year of the Legend Obverse Type



98166 1860 MS67 PCGS. CAC. V-3. Shimmering, nearly blemish-free surfaces are attractively toned in concentric shades of reddish-golden and sea-green iridescence. The strike is well-executed in all areas of this CAC-approved example. As an issue, 1860 half dimes are known to come nice, and this superlative example certainly keeps with the tradition.

Variety: V-3. The date is low, and the end of the right ribbon is clear of the wreath.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 43 examples in MS67 (two MS67+) and four in MS68. The NGC census is 22 coins in MS67 (one MS67 ★) and seven in MS68 (two MS68 ★).

Heritage Commentary: The Mint substantially reworked the designs of the half dime and dime in 1860. On both coins, the reverse legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA was moved to the obverse, replacing the stars, while on the reverse the wreath was enlarged to consume the area vacated by the legend. Rare transitional types exist for both denominations, which combine the old With Stars obverse design with the new reverse.

Provenance: Baltimore Signature (Heritage, 7/2003), lot 6446. NGC ID# 2347, PCGS# 4377

1860-O Half Dime, MS65
Aesthetically Pleasing Example



98167 1860-O MS65 PCGS. CAC. V-2. Both sides of this Gem half dime exhibit areas of white luster with mottled russet and blue-gray toning. The clean fields complement the eye appeal of this CAC-approved piece.

Variety: V-2. The mintmark is high, and both ribbon ends nearly touch the wreath.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 18 in MS65 and 14 finer. NGC accounts for 20 in MS65 and 16 finer, the finest two in MS67 ★. This is one of six in MS65 with the CAC green bean.

Heritage Commentary: Liberty Seated variety experts have especially focused on the earlier New Orleans half dimes, as the initial emissions witnessed a number of design modifications. Understanding of the later New Orleans issues would benefit from a review of the Daniel Valentine reference, as modern researchers have easier access to a large number of examples. This coin would be an excellent launch point for a reexamination of the 1860-O half dime varieties.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (11/2001). NGC ID# 2348, PCGS# 4378

1861/0 Half Dime, MS66
Condition Census Example



98168 1861/0 MS66 PCGS. CAC. FS-301. A Premium Gem, this piece displays light gray surfaces on both obverse and reverse, with more intense shades scattered in the obverse lettering. The reverse has additional overtones of antique reddish-brown, and there are no marks of note. This lustrous, CAC-approved half dime is among the finest for the issue, suited for an advanced half dime or type collection.

Variety: FS-301 in *Cherrypickers'*. The 1861/0 half dime is unlisted in Daniel Valentine's 1931 reference, and specialists continue to debate the nature of the underlying digit. In any case, the variety is marked by a flaw extending between the left foot of 1 and the interior of the flag.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports four in MS66 (one in MS66+) and three in MS67.

Heritage Commentary: Numismatics has countless unsolved mysteries, and part of its enjoyment derives from working through these issues with fellow collectors and researchers. The 1861/0 half dime presents such an opportunity, and the last word remains to be written on this enigmatic, so-called overdate.

Consignor Commentary: Gene Gardner's observation of a duplicate example bears repeating: "When is an overdate not an overdate? Answer: when it is an 1861/0 half dime."

Provenance: Pre-Long Beach Sale (Goldberg Auctions, 6/2002), lot 2089. NGC ID# 2349, PCGS# 4380

1861 Half Dime, Stunning MS67 ★



98169 1861 MS67 ★ NGC. V-3. This Star-designated Superb Gem 1861 half dime displays silver-white centers framed in stunning concentric iridescent color on both sides in hues of mint, saffron, gold, and violet. The surfaces are strongly struck, save for a hint of weakness at the upper-left wreath area. Both sides are almost completely free of post-Mint distractions.

Variety: V-3. A slight but noticeable gap appears between the 8 and 6 in the date.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports six submissions in MS67, of which this example is the sole Star-designated coin. One MS68 is finer at NGC. PCGS shows two MS67 and one MS67+.

Heritage Commentary: The gargantuan mintage exceeding 3.3 million coins for this half dime issue would soon be eclipsed by the Civil War and its concomitant hoarding; after an 1862 mintage of nearly 1.5 million half dimes, the Philadelphia Mint from 1863 through 1865 would strike only 79,000 pieces for all three years combined.

Consignor Commentary: This coin will never win a prize for rarity but it might for beauty, fully meriting the Star designation assigned to it by NGC.

Provenance: Purchased from Bill Nagle (10/2003). NGC ID# 2349, PCGS# 4379

1862 Half Dime, MS67
Near-Condition Census Example



98170 1862 MS67 NGC. V-5. Swirling luster blankets the surfaces of this Superb Gem. The pristine fields admit only a couple of minor ticks, and the eye appeal is considerable. The surfaces are brilliant on both sides.

Variety: V-5. The date is low, while on the reverse the right ribbon is free of the wreath. The M in DIME exhibits a die defect.

Population Data (9/15): The NGC census counts 26 submitted in MS67 (one MS67+, one MS67 ★) and five finer. PCGS reports 59 in this grade (five MS67+) and four finer.

Heritage Commentary: Date styles on Liberty Seated coinage became more delicate in the early 1860s, as this coin demonstrates. The numerals are thinner and, in this case, the base of the 2 is weak.

Provenance: Pre-Long Beach (Superior, 6/2000), lot 1295. NGC ID# 234B, PCGS# 4381

1863 Half Dime, MS66
Vividly Toned Example



98171 1863 MS66 NGC. V-1. Light gold shades on the obverse are strongly accented by streaks and arcs of sea-green toning. The reverse exhibits hints of champagne in the center with blue-green encircling the wreath. High-grade examples of this date are especially frosty, and this coin is no exception.

Variety: V-1, the only dies for the year, showing the date slightly closer to the base than the rim.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 19 in MS66, 16 in MS67, and three in MS68, including one Star-designated piece each in the two top grades. PCGS shows 15 in MS66 and 19 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The year 1863 begins the low-mintage run of Philadelphia half dimes that extends until 1867. Collectors during the mid-19th century gravitated toward proof examples of these issues, with the result that Uncirculated pieces are today rarer and more highly valued than the proofs. In the case of the 1863 half dime, it had a mintage of only 18,000 circulation strikes.

Provenance: Richard Weiss Collection / Central States Signature (Heritage, 4/2001), lot 6147. NGC ID# 234C, PCGS# 4382

1863 Half Dime, MS68
Tied for Finest Known



98172 1863 MS68 NGC. CAC. V-1. This richly toned Superb Gem exhibits a full spectrum of color, mixing burgundy, gold, and azure tones to full effect. The obverse legend is boldly struck, but, like the other MS68 piece that appeared in the Gardner III sale, the first three letters of LIBERTY are a touch soft. Both sides display luster consistent with the lofty technical grade, and the CAC endorsement confirms the overall eye appeal.

Variety: There is only one variety for this issue, V-1, which exhibits repunching in the first two digits of the date.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS and NGC each reports three examples in MS68 and none finer, unsurprisingly. Four of those six submissions have the CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: This splendid half dime will no doubt appeal to collectors of the finest known pieces, but there is also an opportunity here for a half dime specialist to reach for a special coin, one that would be the centerpiece of any half dime set.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (11/2003). NGC ID# 234C, PCGS# 4382

1863-S Half Dime, MS64
CAC-Approved San Francisco Issue



98173 1863-S MS64 PCGS. CAC. V-1. The obverse of this CAC-approved near-Gem exhibits mottled tones of tan and charcoal, which evenly cover both the central figure and the fields. The reverse is more lightly toned in similar shades. The central figures are well-struck, although the dentils are a touch soft. The surfaces are smooth, as expected for the technical grade.

Variety: V-1, the sole variety for the issue. The date is noticeably low in the field, and the right ribbon end is clear of the wreath.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 17 submitted in MS64 and 11 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Half dimes of the San Francisco Mint form a collectible subset within the Liberty Seated series, consisting of 11 coins. They are usually well-struck and accessible to collectors, with the lone exception of the unique 1870-S, a coin that eluded even Gene Gardner.

Provenance: *Stack's* (3/1998), lot 355. NGC ID# 234D, PCGS# 4383

1863-S Half Dime, MS65
Only One Coin Finer at PCGS



98174 1863-S MS65 PCGS. CAC. V-1. This lustrous Gem example exhibits silver toning on both sides, with hints of champagne throughout the fields. Light clashing is evident throughout, on the obverse below the base of Liberty, while on the reverse the telltale horizontal line passes through the top of the wreath. Ample mint frost completes the appeal of this appealing half dime.

Variety: Valentine lists only a single variety, V-1, which features a low date and centered mintmark.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports nine in MS65 with two finer — one each in MS66 and MS67. NGC shows six submitted in MS65 and two finer. CAC has given the green bean to six in this grade and one each in MS66 and MS67.

Heritage Commentary: Despite the lower mintage of this issue (100,000 pieces), these coins trade at reasonably close levels to type examples. Dedicated collectors of Seated coins have long since recognized such anomalies, and, as a group, seem especially attracted to the concept of rarity.

Provenance: *Purchased from Joseph O'Connor* (2/2004). NGC ID# 234D, PCGS# 4383

1863-S Half Dime, MS66
Among the Few Finest Known



98175 1863-S MS66 NGC. CAC. V-1. Light gray covers the obverse of this Premium Gem, while a burst of color weaves through the letters. Russet, gold, and green underlie STATES and appear about the periphery and lower portion of the central figure. The reverse is more richly toned with deep gray in the center, surrounded by patches of evergreen outside the wreath. CAC approval attests to the overall eye appeal, and the strong technical grade places this example close to the finest known.

Variety: V-1, the only variety for the issue. The date is close to the rim, while the mintmark is horizontally centered under the bowknot.

Population Data (9/15): NGC and PCGS each report one MS66 and one MS67 finer — with the perennial caveat added, *not necessarily all separate coins*. CAC has endorsed only this MS66 and one MS67 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Our consignor Gene Gardner never feared duplicates, and this coin invites die state comparison with a second V-1 example featured in the current sale. This piece exhibits an earlier die state, with the clash marks ever so slightly less progressed.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (4/2004). NGC ID# 234D, PCGS# 4383

1864-S Half Dime, MS64
Scarce, Low-Mintage S-Mint Issue



98176 1864-S MS64 NGC. CAC. V-1. Silver and gray blanket the surfaces of this CAC-approved near-Gem, showing hints of champagne inside the wreath. Clashing is evident on both sides, more heavily on the reverse, as clash marks connect portions of the wreath. A few marks hide within the figure of Liberty.

Variety: V-1, the only variety for the issue. The 6 and 4 in the date are noticeably larger than the 1 and 8. On the reverse, both ends of the ribbon touch the wreath.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports four MS64 (one MS64+) and 11 finer. PCGS shows six MS64 and nine finer.

Heritage Commentary: With the exception of the virtually unobtainable 1870-S, the 1864-S — struck to the extent of 90,000 coins — represents the lowest mintage of the San Francisco half dimes and is accordingly valued in all states of preservation.

Provenance: Stack's (5/1999), lot 2113. NGC ID# 234F, PCGS# 4385

1864-S Half Dime, MS66
Tied for Finest Known



98177 1864-S MS66 NGC. V-1. Original toning is the hallmark of this Premium Gem, showing obverse shades of deep russet and olive. The reverse is lighter with rose at the periphery and blue-green scattered about the remainder. The surfaces are exceptionally clean and free of any distracting blemishes. Luster penetrates the rich toning throughout, and the eye appeal is plentiful.

Variety: V-1 is the only variety for the 1864-S. The date is vertically placed in the middle of the exergue, while the mintmark is slightly left of the bowknot.

Population Data (9/15): NGC and PCGS report, respectively, five and six submitted in MS66 with none finer at either service.

Heritage Commentary: Half dimes are perhaps the most collectible of all Liberty Seated denominations, accessibly priced and hosting a good assortment of varieties. What better way to start such a set than with a finest known example?

Consignor Commentary: Another coin about which Valentine and Blythe had little to say, other than that most examples were softly struck. That is somewhat the case here, with Liberty's figure slightly rounded, but there is enough detail still present that the coin would qualify for a "full head" designation. This piece, struck from lightly clashed dies, is tied for top honors at NGC with four other coins, and is attractively toned with no distracting spots or marks.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (11/2003). NGC ID# 234F, PCGS# 4385

1865 Half Dime, MS67
Tied for Finest Known



98178 1865 MS67 NGC. CAC. V-1. The upper portion of Liberty is brilliant and contrasts nicely with the ice-blue toning covering much the obverse. The reverse exhibits a wine center surrounded by a thick band of blue. The overall effect is stunning, and the CAC approval attests to the aesthetic appeal of this Superb Gem.

Variety: Valentine describes a single variety, V-1. The 1 and the 8 in the date are recut, and the ribbon ends are clear of the wreath.

Population Data (9/15): NGC and PCGS report seven and two submitted in MS67, in that order, and none finer at either service. The CAC approval reduces those nine submissions down to four with the green bean.

Heritage Commentary: Although tied with a handful of others at the MS67 level, it is hard to imagine another as attractive as this example, which in addition boasts the Gene Gardner pedigree.

Consignor Commentary: With only one set of dies used to strike 13,000 coins for circulation, along with 500 proofs, all characteristics are identical. With so few strikes, almost all coins struck for circulation qualify as prooflike first strikes. The recut 1 and 8 on the date, and the doubling of the S in STATES are the same on both. NGC has come down on the side of this coin being Mint State. The coin is truly spectacular and the eye appeal magnificent.

Provenance: Boys Town and Mamiye Collections (Bowers & Merena, 3/1998), lot 516. NGC ID# 234G, PCGS# 4386

1866 Half Dime, MS66

Ex: Andre Dawson



98179 1866 MS66 NGC. V-1. Blue and burgundy tones sweep across the obverse of this Premium Gem, culminating in an azure field to the left. The strike is full, with LIBERTY well-defined and extensive detail on the hair. Violet and indigo shades splash over the reverse, and the remnants of a finger mark are evident above the wreath.

Variety: The V-1 is the only variety for this issue, featuring a low date and ribbon ends clear of the wreath on both sides.

Population Data (9/15): NGC accounts for 13 in MS66 and two finer, both MS67. PCGS reports five Premium Gems and three finer.

Heritage Commentary: The Andre Dawson Collection, sold by Heritage in 1998, consisted of a high-grade type set of U.S. coins. Sports figures occasionally venture into numismatics, among them Dr. Jerry Buss and Wayne Gretzky. Dawson played professional baseball from 1976 to 1996 and entered the Hall of Fame in 2010.

Provenance: Andre Dawson; Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 9/1998), lot 5847; Goldberg Auctions (6/2002), lot 2095. NGC ID# 234J, PCGS# 4388

1866-S Half Dime, MS65

Conditional Rarity



98180 1866-S MS65 NGC. CAC. V-1. Rich toning blankets the obverse of this Gem half dime, showing navy and russet at the periphery leading toward lighter shades of green and gold at the center. The surfaces are smooth and lustrous, interrupted only by a couple of ticks in the right field. The silver-toned reverse exhibits blue-green and orange-burgundy hues at the rim, and the overall eye appeal of this CAC-approved example is strong.

Variety: V-1, with a centered date and high mintmark.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports five in MS65 and seven finer. PCGS accounts for seven and four at those same levels. This is one of two in MS65 with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1866-S half dime is priced as a better-date type coin in circulated grades, but at the upper end of the Uncirculated range, the valuation rapidly escalates. Only a handful of examples exceed this coin, and, while this is a common situation in the Gardner Collection, the coin itself remains legitimately rare.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (8/1998). NGC ID# 234K, PCGS# 4389

1867 Half Dime, MS65
Exceptionally Toned Example



98181 1867 MS65 NGC. CAC. V-1. Concentric rings of vivid color surround the central figure, transitioning from blue to violet, wine, and gold. The aesthetic appeal is stunning, and the CAC approval reinforces a strong evaluation. Clashing is visible throughout, with the interior outline of the wreath plainly seen in the right field. The reverse features a lustrous, silvery center encircled by crescents of auburn and blue-green. Reverse clashing is less evident, and a few scattered ticks are noted above LF of HALF.

Variety: This is the V-1 variety, featuring a crack through the second S of STATES, a high date, and ribbon ends clear of the wreath.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 11 in MS65 and 10 MS66 finer, with one Star-designated example in both grades. PCGS lists 10 in MS65 (one MS65+) and eight finer — seven MS66 and one MS67.

Heritage Commentary: This is surely one of the most appealing coins at the Gem level in the entire Gardner Collection. Gene Gardner relentlessly upgraded his coins, but he required six years of fully engaged collecting to replace this coin in his frontline set, with the only example graded MS67 by either PCGS or NGC.

Provenance: *Boys Town and Mamiye Collections* (Bowers & Merena, 3/1998), lot 519. NGC ID# 234L, PCGS# 4390

1867 Half Dime, MS66
Condition Census Coin



98182 1867 MS66 PCGS. CAC. V-1. The obverse of this Premium Gem is noticeably prooflike, featuring variegated sea-green and blue toning framed by intense reddish-gold peripheral shades. The reverse exhibits a champagne-peach center with blue-green iridescence at the border. Numerous clash marks appear in the fields on each side, and a die crack bisects the final S in STATES. The reverse shows some localized striking incompleteness over the AL in HALF, the D in DIME, and the largest leaf along the inner left side of the wreath.

Variety: V-1, with a high date and a crack through the second S of STATES.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS accounts for seven submissions in MS66 and one MS67 finer. The finest at NGC are 10 in MS66, along with two Prooflike submissions each in MS66 and MS67. Three of those MS66 submissions (including the present example) bear the CAC green approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: Struck to the extent of 8,000 pieces, the 1867 half dime is the capstone of a series of low-mintage emissions commencing at the Philadelphia Mint in 1863. All of these coins are prized, but the 1867 stands out with the lowest mintage of any Philadelphia Seated half dime. With only a single piece graded higher and the CAC approval, this coin represents an appealing combination of rarity, pedigree, technical quality, and market acceptance.

Provenance: *FUN Signature* (Heritage, 1/2004), lot 5571. NGC ID# 234L, PCGS# 4390

1867-S Half Dime, Appealing MS65
The Pittman Coin



98183 1867-S MS65 PCGS. CAC. V-1. Ex: Pittman. This Gem half dime exhibits steel-gray surfaces with splashes of olive woven through the obverse lettering. A few charcoal streaks do not detract, and the eye appeal of this CAC-approved example is wholesome. The reverse is silver with light gold overtones. Moderate clash marks are visible in the wreath and lettering. Certified in a PCGS green-label holder.

Variety: V-1. Valentine notes but a single variety of the 1867-S, with a high date.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports three submitted in MS65. NGC accounts for four in MS65. There are two MS66 finer at each service. This coin and one other MS65 have the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: Like Gene Gardner, John J. Pittman pursued complete sets in both proof and circulation strike format. While the Pittman Collection is particularly regarded for pre-1858 proof coinage, less attention had been paid to Uncirculated pieces such as this half dime. The 1867-S half dime is challenging at the Gem level, a conditional rarity both collectors appreciated.

Provenance: John Jay Pittman Collection Part One (David Akers, 10/1997), lot 526. NGC ID# 234M, PCGS# 4391

1868 Half Dime, MS67
Tied for Finest Known



98184 1868 MS67 NGC. CAC. V-2. Luster booms through the intense color on this CAC-approved Superb Gem, with golden shades at the obverse rim giving way to steel-blue and deep rose at the obverse center. The reverse exhibits lighter hues, with a ring of coral surrounding blue-green in the inner wreath. The strike fully defines the dentils, although some softness, characteristic of 1868 half dimes, is evident at the upper-left portion of the wreath.

Variety: V-2. The date is punched high in the exergue and slopes downward from left to right. The right ribbon tip on the reverse is noticeably clear of the wreath, while the left tip nearly touches.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports five grading events and PCGS three grading events for this issue in MS67, and none are finer at either service.

Heritage Commentary: The Seated half dime series offers the opportunity to acquire extraordinary pieces at price levels more accessible to a broader range of collectors. This is situation where a collector can more easily reach for a finest known example, one that would serve as the highlight of nearly any collection.

Consignor Commentary: This is a multihued, sparkling beauty with no obvious imperfections. Dave Bowers noted in 2002, "Needle sharp. Rather spectacular to view."

Provenance: Logan and Steinberg Collections (Bowers & Merena, 11/2002), lot 1177. NGC ID# 234N, PCGS# 4392

1868-S Half Dime, MS65
Rare at This Grade Level



98185 1868-S MS65 NGC. V-1. This Gem half dime is blanketed on both sides in shades of light gold, and a few scattered areas of champagne appear on the reverse. The strike is strong, showing delineated braids and a defined toe. Some light chatter is evident at the left arm, and the reverse exhibits moderate clashing. There are no distracting spots, and the luster is unbroken, as expected for the grade.

Variety: V-1, the only variety for the issue.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 18 in MS65 and six finer, all MS66. PCGS show nine in MS65 and four MS66 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1868-S half dime becomes rare at the Gem level, with examples typically valued at multiples of MS64 pieces. This is a solid example for the grade and will appeal to the Registry Set builder or high-grade type collector.

Provenance: ANA Signature (Heritage, 8/1998), lot 6313. NGC ID# 234P, PCGS# 4393

1868-S Half Dime, MS66
Tied for Highest Graded



98186 1868-S MS66 PCGS. V-1a. This piece displays bright, virtually untuned surfaces that are immaculately preserved. All design elements are sharply impressed, further enhancing the overall eye appeal. The obverse is moderately clashed with the reverse less so, representing one of the many die states of this issue.

Variety: V-1a, with reverse die cracks running from the wreath to the rim.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS and NGC report, respectively, four and six submissions in MS66, and none are graded higher at either service.

Heritage Commentary: Gene Gardner is often thought of as a date and mintmark set builder, but the current sale of duplicates reveals a collector fascinated with varieties as well. Gardner owned three examples of the 1868-S half dime in Gem or higher, all in differing die states.

Provenance: ANA Signature (7/2005), lot 5796. NGC ID# 234P, PCGS# 4393

1869 Half Dime, MS66
Better-Date Example



98187 1869 MS66 PCGS. CAC. V-2. Generous luster radiates through the original gray color of this Premium Gem, showing hints of iridescence visible throughout both sides. Some softness occurs in the upper-left portion of the wreath, typical for half dimes of this period. The eye appeal of this CAC-approved piece, housed in a green-label PCGS holder, is superb, as expected for any coin with a Gene Gardner pedigree.

Variety: V-2, with the date to the right of the shield point.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports nine in MS66 (two MS66+) and five MS67 finer. NGC lists 10 in MS66 (three MS66+) and four finer. Of those 19 submissions in MS66, seven have the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: Half dime mintages remained small in the late 1860s, prior to the explosion of silver production occasioned by the Comstock Lode in the following decade. Although dwarfed by the mintage of many earlier half dimes, the 1869 is not priced as such, and this added element of rarity should entice many collectors.

Provenance: Purchased from Jim O'Donnell (3/2001). NGC ID# 234R, PCGS# 4394

1869-S Half Dime, MS65
Conditionally Rare
Sole CAC Example So Graded



98188 1869-S MS65 NGC. CAC. V-2. This largely untoned Gem reveals scattered hints of gray above the figure of Liberty and on the reverse within the wreath. The lustrous, smooth surfaces create substantial eye appeal, as the CAC approval attests. The obverse exhibits some strike weakness, at the rock and lower part of the shield, and the upper portion of the wreath is similarly struck.

Variety: V-2. The date is low, with the 1 closer to the rim than the 9.

Population Data (9/15): NGC accounts for two submissions in MS65 and three finer — three MS66 and two MS67. PCGS reports a single MS65 and three MS66 (one MS66+) finer. This is the lone MS65 with the CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: Uncirculated branch mint coinage challenges collectors of Liberty Seated material, and, while a few common issues exist, the 1869-S half dime is certainly not among them. This issue is extremely rare at the Gem level and substantially higher-valued than MS64 examples.

Provenance: ANA Signature (Heritage, 8/1998), lot 6313. NGC ID# 234S, PCGS# 4395

1870 Half Dime, Rim-Toned MS66



98189 1870 MS66 NGC. V-4. Mint-green at the rims frames sky-blue with hints of rose and gold in the interior obverse of this Premium Gem half dime, although the figure of Liberty remains essentially untinted silver-gray. The reverse adopts an alternate palette, showing glittering copper-gold at the margins and some untinted silver-white central remnants. A die line runs from the bottom-left of Liberty's rock to the rim above U nearby. The preservation is excellent and the strike adequate, save for the usually afflicted area on the top-left wreath.

Variety: V-4, low, open date, with the right wreath end clear.

Population Data (9/15): NGC data show 11 in MS66, four in MS67, and three in MS68 (two with Stars). PCGS reports eight MS66 (one MS66+), five MS67 (two MS67+), and one MS68.

Heritage Commentary: The 1870 half dimes were struck to the extent of a moderate 535,000 pieces in Philadelphia, but their survival in the occasionally seen very high Mint State grades above the Premium Gem level makes this date an obvious target for type collectors.

The San Francisco Mint (which was in possession of six pairs of half dime dies) only struck a single 1870-S half dime, as far as is known with certainty; none were reported struck, and the single unique example verified (now MS64 PCGS and in the Simpson Collection) was discovered in a "junk box" of coins in 1978, according to one version of the story. The 1870-S half dime is a coin that eluded even Gene Gardner.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rareities (4/2003). NGC ID# 234T, PCGS# 4396

1871-S Half Dime, Well-Preserved MS65
Mintmark Within Wreath



98190 1871-S MS65 NGC. V-1. Noticeable die lapping appears in the upper reaches to the waist of the seated Liberty figure, producing lost detail most perceptible at the neckline and under each arm. The surfaces are well-preserved for the grade. Golden patina and good mint luster predominate on both sides.

Variety: V-1, sole dies for the issue. Tall compact date, slightly low; Small S mintmark high. Mintmark within the wreath, as on all half dimes 1870-71. In 1872 both types were struck in San Francisco. **Die State:** The reverse displays several die cracks, including heavy flanking ones from the lower wreath to the rim at 4 and 10 o'clock. A straight, heavy clash mark connects the wreath tops, produced by the bottom of Liberty's rock. Other clashes show inside the wreath.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows 11 submitted in MS65 and five in MS66. The finest at PCGS are five each in MS65 and MS66.

Heritage Commentary: The same reverse die used on the unique 1870-S half dime was reused to make the 1871-S half dimes per Walter Breen, struck to the extent of 161,000 pieces. Gems of this issue are scarce, even though Gene Gardner also owned an MS66 PCGS example.

Provenance: Purchased from Kenneth Goldberg (4/2003). NGC ID# 234W, PCGS# 4399

1872 Half Dime, Nicely Preserved MS66



98191 1872 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Blue-gray and pale gold intermingle to pleasing effect on this nicely preserved Premium Gem 1872 half dime. Faint die-polishing lines run diagonally upward and north-northeast throughout the obverse fields, increasing the luster and producing minor contrast against the more-frosted Liberty. An attractive example of this common date, even in this high condition.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows 23 in MS66 (one in MS66+) and two in MS67. NGC reports 12 in MS66 and four in MS67. Of the 35 submissions in MS66 at both services, only 10 have the CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: An available date, the 1872 is the next-to-last P-mint in the series, as the “Crime of 1873” would forever abolish the half dime denomination (and others) in the following year.

Provenance: *Purchased from Howards (3/2004).* NGC ID# 234X, PCGS# 4400

1872-S Half Dime, Stunning MS67
Mintmark Below Bow



98192 1872-S Mintmark Below Bow MS67 NGC. CAC. V-3. Generous cartwheel luster is the hallmark of this stunning late-series Seated half dime in Superb Gem condition. Pale pastel gold, lilac, and rose patina completes the broad eye appeal on immaculate surfaces.

Variety: V-3. Medium date slightly high; both ends of the ribbon are clear. Large S. Mintmark Below Bow, a change from the unique 1870-S and the 1871-S half dimes (which use the same reverse die), in the Mintmark Above style; in 1872 San Francisco struck pieces of both varieties.

Population Data (9/15): This is the lone MS67 of this variety at NGC, although there is also a sole MS68 finer there. PCGS reports eight in MS67, including one MS67+.

Heritage Commentary: The Mintmark Below Bow variety of 1872-S half dime is found far more often than the Mintmark Above Bow type (also known as Mintmark Below/Within Wreath). CoinFacts pegs the ratio thusly: “According to the PCGS Population Report, the Mintmark Below variety is approximately 3.5 times more common than the Mintmark Within variety.” The disparity is especially pronounced in the higher Mint State grades at PCGS.

Provenance: *Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (10/2003).* NGC ID# 2352, PCGS# 4401

1873 Half Dime, Gorgeously Toned MS67
Final-Year Issue, Tied for Finest



98193 1873 MS67 NGC. V-2. A whisper of gold at the edge mingles in with the predominant sage tones on this Superb Gem final-year half dime, deepening in the interiors to ocean-blue and finally lavender at the centers of both sides. A nice sharp strike complements eye appeal that must be called absolutely stunning. This coin definitely should have the NGC Star designation.

Variety: V-2. The pendant is a little left of center of the 7, and the 3 in the date is slightly low. Both I's in the obverse legend are missing their lower-left serifs, and the D in UNITED is broken at the top.

Population Data (9/15): This Superb Gem is the sole finest at NGC. PCGS reports three in MS67 (one MS67+).

Heritage Commentary: The "Crime of 1873," as it was popularly called at the time by proponents of the Free Silver movement, legislated out of existence the two cent, three cent silver, half dime, and Liberty Seated dollar denominations, and effectively placed America on a de facto gold standard. The last-year 1873 Philadelphia half dimes were struck in the amount of 712,000 pieces, or less than one-fourth that of the 1872-P issue.

Consignor Commentary: A magnificent coin with gorgeous toning, one of four MS67s known to the services, and the finer of two in this collection (the other is a coin graded MS67 by PCGS, no slouch in its own right).

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (3/2002). NGC ID# 5CMH, PCGS# 4404

1873-S Half Dime, Lustrous MS66
Deeply Toned, Sharply Struck



98194 1873-S MS66 PCGS. V-1. A great deal of mint luster manages to percolate through a deep layer of rose-violet toning on both sides of this Premium Gem, surrounded at the peripheries by attractive cobalt-blue and aquamarine patina. Boldly struck surfaces show no mentionable distractions.

Variety: V-1, large mintmark, no die crack through date.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports six MS66 with two MS67 finer. There are seven MS66 (one MS66+) and one MS67 at NGC.

Heritage Commentary: The 1873-S is a magical date in American numismatics for obvious reasons. It was the last-year issue in two denominations from San Francisco — not only the half dime, but the Seated silver dollars as well, reportedly struck to the extent of 700 pieces but ordered melted in July 1873 by Mint Director Henry R. Linderman. Today none are known, but the tantalizing possibility of a survivor surrounds the issue and quickens the hearts of Seated Liberty coin collectors.

Provenance: Purchased from Bill Nagle (11/2012). NGC ID# 2354, PCGS# 4405

PROOF SEATED HALF DIMES

1846 Half Dime, Elusive PR64



98195 1846 PR64 NGC. Breen-2. A diamond-sharp strike enhances the surfaces of this golden-toned near-Gem proof 1846 half dime. A small triangular raised defect appears between stars 10 and 11, unmentioned in the *Breen Proof Encyclopedia* but seen on some other proof examples we have offered as well. A wire rim is prominent on the obverse from about 7:30 to 1:30. The appreciable cameo contrast is more perceptible on the reverse.

Variety: Breen-2, unlisted in Valentine. The shield point is above the left upright of 1 in the date; the rare business strikes — usually found in low grades — have the shield point above the *right* upright of the 1. The upper loop of the 8 is filled.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows eight submissions ranging from PR63 to PR67, including four PR66 and one in each of the other numeric levels. PCGS reports only two unimpaired examples of this issue, one each in PR64 and PR65.

Heritage Commentary: Both the 1846 half dime and dime business strikes are low-mintage key issues within their respective series, making their proof counterparts that much more sought-after and elusive. Perhaps a dozen survive today, although we would be unsurprised to find that the number is somewhat smaller.

Provenance: Purchased from RARCOA (1/1997). NGC ID# 235E, PCGS# 4422



1850 Half Dime, Gem Proof Tied for Finest Graded Among the Most Elusive Early Proof Issues



98196 1850 PR65 NGC. V-2. This 1850 proof half dime, a wonderful Gem from the John Jay Pittman and Phil Kaufman collections, is an important rarity, one of only four or five known to exist. Extraordinary cobalt-blue, beige-gold, and violet toning graces each side of this impressive Gem proof. The strike is strong, including complete separation between Liberty's foot and the sandal. The fields are well-mirrored, showing noticeable contrast against the motifs. Nicely preserved surfaces reveal a clash mark within the M of DIME. Numerous die polish lies are visible in the fields, along with a few unobtrusive hairlines. The only identifiers we can locate are a couple of tiny marks below the cap and another to the right of Liberty's neck. An extremely rare issue, examples of which seldom become available for sale.

Variety: V-2. Most known proof half dimes of the year are examples of V-2, considered a proof-only variety by students of the series. Writing about this variety, Valentine notes that the 18 and 5 touch the base of the rock under Liberty. Walter Breen was apparently the first to note that examples are only known as proofs, as discussed in his supplement to the Valentine reference, published in 1958 as a closing issue of Wayne Raymond's *The Coin Collector's Journal*.

Population Data (9/15): Mintage estimates range from seven to 10 pieces, but just four 1850 proof half dime submissions have been certified, all by NGC — one PR62, a PR64, the present Pittman-Kaufman-Gardner PR65, and one other PR65.

Heritage Commentary: The 1850 proof half dime is demonstrably far more elusive than a date such as the 1846, celebrated in business-strike format but known to the extent of perhaps as many as a dozen proofs.

Roster of 1850 Proof Half Dimes

This roster is based on auction appearances of 1850 proof half dimes known to us.

- 1. PR65 NGC.** David Bullowa (5/1952); John Jay Pittman (David Akers, 10/1997), lot 484; Phil Kaufman Collection Part Two / FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2008), lot 3033; ANA Signature (Heritage, 2/2014), lot 3801. **The present coin.**
- 2. PR65 NGC.** Orlando Sale (Stack's, 1/2009), lot 217.
- 3. Gem Brilliant Proof, Uncertified.** Virgil Brand; New Netherlands Coin Co. (52nd Sale, 12/1958), lot 379; Goldberg Coins (2/2003), lot 303; Stack's (6/2004), lot 4194. The cataloger for New Netherlands notes the variety was unknown to Valentine, identified by the numerous parallel die scratches below and right of the date: "The only one we have seen from these dies, though about four or five other proofs are known from the dies of V-2."
- 4. Proof.** Will W. Neil (B. Max Mehl, 6/1947), lot 1628; Stack's (6/1998), lot 1148.
- 5. Proof.** Stack's (11/1995), lot 1162.

Additional Appearances

- A. Proof.** Valentine plate. Only the obverse is plated in Valentine.
- B. Proof.** Heman Ely (W. Elliot Woodward, 1/1884), lot 959; John Work Garrett; Johns Hopkins University (Stack's, 3/1976), lot 109.
- C. Proof.** Golden I (Kreisberg Schulman, 2/1962), lot 910
- D. Proof.** Numisma (7/1954)
- E. Proof.** NN34: 463, impaired. NGC ID# 235J, PCGS# 4426

1856 Half Dime, PR64
Deeply Toned Example



98197 1856 PR64 PCGS. CAC. V-2. Obverse fields of intense blue and gold contrast with a lighter figure of Liberty, awash in coral and silver. The brilliant reverse center is surrounded by thick shades of russet, magenta, and purple. The mirrors penetrate the toning on both sides, and the eye appeal of the CAC-approved half dime, housed in an older-generation PCGS holder, is strong.

Variety: V-2, the only variety for proofs of this year. The 5 is upright and the 6 is heavy.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports seven PR64 submissions and two PR65 finer. NGC accounts for four in PR64 and 14 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The year 1856 represents an expansion in proof coinage, and, even though mintage figures were not officially recorded, surviving populations suggest increased collector interest at the time. This half dime issue remains rare, however, and the grading service populations (17 coins certified by PCGS in total, 21 by NGC) are in close alignment with Breen's estimate of 30 to 40 pieces.

Provenance: *Nebraska Part IV* (R.M. Smythe, 11/2000), lot 1206. NGC ID# 235L, PCGS# 4434

1856 Half Dime, PR64
The Eliasberg Coin



98198 1856 PR64 PCGS. CAC. V-2. Ex: Eliasberg. Tan shades intensify at the high points of the central figure, while splashes of slate highlight the left field and date. The reverse exhibits deep gold toning evenly dotted with charcoal points. The sharp strike cleanly defines the stars and separates the dentils. The overall appeal is pleasing, an opinion shared by CAC.

Variety: V-2, with the shield tip to the left of the date.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports seven in PR64 and two finer. NGC shows four PR64 and 14 in higher grades.

Heritage Commentary: Gene Gardner had an affinity for 1856 proof half dimes, owning no less than four examples, each one special in its own way. The pedigree and eye appeal of this coin have proven worthy of the finest collections, and bidders are invited to accordingly compete.

Provenance: *Mumford Collection* (New York Coin & Stamp, 4/1896); *J.M. Clapp estate* (1942); *Eliasberg Collection* (Bowers & Merena, 5/1996), lot 997. NGC ID# 235L, PCGS# 4434

1856 Half Dime, PR65
Ex: Garrett, Sharply Struck



98199 1856 PR65 NGC. CAC. V-2. Ex: Garrett. This splendid, CAC-approved Gem proof features gold, russet, and olive shading over well-struck devices and mirrored fields. The smallest details are fully delineated, with separation clear in the bowknot and the hair of Liberty. The depth of the reverse lettering is exceptional, and this is complemented by the obverse stars, which emerge strongly from the glassy fields.

Variety: V-2, with the date closer to the base than to the rim, and the 1 well left of the shield point.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports eight submitted in PR65 and six in PR66. PCGS reports two in PR65 and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: Pre-1858 proof coinage is one of the most challenging areas of American numismatics, but this well-pedigreed and attractive Gem is one of the more accessible pieces in the series, suitable for an advanced half dime or proof type collection.

Provenance: Garrett Collection Part III (Bowers & Ruddy, 10/1980), lot 1617; Pre-FUN Elite (Superior, 1/2004), lot 188. NGC ID# 235L, PCGS# 4434

1859 Half Dime, PR65
Sharply Struck Example



98200 1859 PR65 NGC. V-1. This lovely Gem proof reveals shades of blue-green over the reflective obverse, with burgundy and russet featured in the central figure. The mirrorlike reverse is similarly toned. The strike is full, with well-delineated dentils and clear definition in the hair of Liberty.

Variety: V-1. The date is high and exhibits repunching. The 9 is placed noticeably lower than the 5.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 48 in this grade and 26 finer.

Heritage Commentary: This year represents the first usage of a new obverse hub for Seated half dimes, an interpretation by Mint assistant engraver Anthony C. Paquet. The figure of Liberty is more upright, the star points are hollow, LIBERTY on the shield ribbon is larger, and the base extends past the right (facing) foot.

Provenance: Stack's (3/1998), lot 353. NGC ID# 235P, PCGS# 4438

1859 Half Dime, PR66
Eye-Appealing Example



98201 1859 PR66 PCGS. CAC. V-1. This Premium Gem proof exhibits shades of teal at the obverse rim, and the stars emerge from the field with russet and gold colors. The figure of Liberty is more lightly toned in blue-green. The right field reveals a few horizontal roller marks, as struck. The reverse of this CAC-approved example is dominated by a blue-green hue with mottled rose scattered in the interior of the wreath.

Variety: V-1, with a high date. The 1 is markedly repunched to the south.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 12 PR66 submissions and five finer, all PR67. NGC data show 18 in PR66 (one PR66+) and seven finer. Of those 30 submissions in PR66, only this piece and three others have the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: Gene Gardner already owned a PR67 piece when he purchased this example, and the aesthetic appeal, with deep mirrors and varied toning, is undeniable.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (2/2008). NGC ID# 235P, PCGS# 4438

1860 Half Dime, PR65
Distinctive Date Placement



98202 1860 PR65 PCGS. CAC. V-3. The obverse of this Gem proof is evenly blanketed by light shades of golden-olive, with hints of burgundy about the date and base. The reverse toning is blue-green throughout and more intense. The surfaces of this CAC-approved piece are deeply reflective, and there are no notable marks.

Variety: V-3. The date is low, quite close to the rim, while the right tip of the reverse ribbon is clear of the wreath.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 15 in PR65 and 17 finer. NGC shows 20 and 22 in those respective levels.

Heritage Commentary: Proof varieties of Seated coinage have not been fully explored, and the low placement of the date on this coin invites a search for a business strike example showing the same obverse die.

Provenance: ANA Sale of the Millennium (Bowers & Merena, 8/2000), lot 1046. NGC ID# 235V, PCGS# 4443

1861 Half Dime, Sharply Struck PR66



98203 1861 PR66 NGC. CAC. V-1. The steel-gray-appearing surfaces under a good light resolve into lovely olive, sage, and rose-gold patina, showing high field reflectivity and some contrast between the fields and devices. A razor-sharp strike and excellent preservation are the order of the day.

Variety: V-1, the dies of most proof survivors, showing the date nearly centered and the left base of the 1 over the left side of a denticle.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows 14 in PR66 (one with a Star designation) and three PR67 finer. PCGS reports five in PR66 and two PR67 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Although federal records list a mintage of 1,000 pieces for the proof 1861 Seated half dime, Breen's *Proof Encyclopedia* asserts that fewer than 400 coins were actually sold to the collecting public by year-end. Since the balance of the mintage was melted, this early Civil War-era issue is understandably rare in the finer levels of preservation.

Provenance: *Long Beach Signature* (Heritage, 2/2003), lot 6196; *Richard Jewell et al. Sale (American Numismatic Rarities, 3/2005)*, lot 1569. NGC ID# 5LL5, PCGS# 4444

1863 Half Dime, PR66 Cameo
Rainbow-Toned Example



98204 1863 PR66 Cameo PCGS. CAC. V-1. This Premium Gem Cameo 1863 proof half dime exhibits splendid rainbow concentric patina amid great contrast, excellent preservation with no noticeable contact marks, and deep field reflectivity.

Variety: V-1. Prominent double-punching appears on the 18, and the D in UNITED is closed at the top.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS records six submissions in PR66 Cameo with a single PR67 Cameo finer. NGC shows six in PR66 (one PR66+) Cameo and three in PR67 Cameo (one with a Star).

Heritage Commentary: The 1863 proof half dimes, reportedly struck in the amount of 460 pieces, are under date-collector pressure due to the low emission of 18,000 circulation strikes for this issue. Restrikes were produced, likely in the early 1870s, using a different obverse die showing a gap in the D of UNITED and a reverse die from 1870. NGC ID# 235Y, PCGS# 84446

1865 Half Dime, PR66
Rainbow-Toned Obverse



98205 1865 PR66 PCGS. CAC. V-1. The reverse is brilliant with light gray-gold mottled patina heavier at the rims, while the obverse displays rainbow iridescence with jade, saffron, lilac, and cobalt-blue predominating. Noticeable die lapping has effaced part of Liberty's midsection.

Variety: V-1, showing filling within each digit of 865, the early die state. Later states show only part of the 8 filled.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows 11 in PR66 and one PR67 finer. NGC reports eight PR66, four PR67, and one PR68. Among the 19 submissions in PR66, this piece is one of only three with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: A second die variety, Breen-2, is unlisted in Valentine, showing clear numerals and heavy repunching on the 1, per the *Breen Proof Encyclopedia*. Regardless of variety, only 13,000 circulation strikes were made, increasing demand for high-grade proofs, which fortunately survive in ample quantities.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (9/2000). NGC ID# 2362, PCGS# 4448

1868 Half Dime, PR66
CAC-Approved Example



98206 1868 PR66 NGC. CAC. V-1. Although not certified with the Cameo designation, the obverse of this Premium Gem proof reveals significant contrast between the fields and the central device. Light shades of blue-green highlight the figure of Liberty, while scattered patches of indigo and wine grace the reverse. The eye appeal is pleasing, and the CAC endorsement adds to the allure.

Variety: V-1. The date is high, with the second 8 punched slightly lower than the first.

Population Data (9/15): NGC enumerates 17 submissions in PR66 (one PR66 ★) with four pieces finer, while PCGS reports 12 in PR66 and three finer. This is among four CAC-approved examples in this grade.

Heritage Commentary: Proof coinage was regularly produced in the 1860s, despite the reduction in business strike mintages. Many collectors procured sets on an annual basis, and a healthy percentage of survivors satisfy today's demand. Still, among the several hundred certified examples, this coin stands near the top, only a single grading point away from "finest known" status.

Provenance: Pennsylvania Cabinet (Bowers & Merena, 11/1997), lot 448. NGC ID# 2365, PCGS# 4451

1869 Half Dime, Splendid PR67
Underrated Late-Series Date



98207 1869 PR67 PCGS. CAC. V-1. Medium sage-blue and rose-gold hues compete for territory on the obverse amid blazing field reflectivity. The reverse shows a somewhat lighter color palette of iridescent jade, gold, and olive. The otherwise razor-sharp strike wanes a little over the upper left reverse wreath, not uncommon for the design, and no mentionable handling marks appear.

Variety: V-1. No repunching shows on the digits of the date, but a die lump appears on the upright of the 1, just above the base.

Population Data (9/15): This splendid Superb Gem proof is one of only three in the PCGS top grade of PR67. NGC reports 10 in PR67 (one PR67 ★) and one PR68 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1869 is a lower-mintage date with just 208,600 pieces produced, 600 which were proofs — but the issue may be somewhat overlooked, given the much lower overall P-mint production totals from earlier in the 1860s.

Provenance: *Philip Kaufman Collection / FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2003), lot 6359; purchased from Legend Numismatics (11/2003). NGC ID# 2366, PCGS# 4452*

1869 Half Dime, PR66 Cameo
The Eliasberg Example, Top CAC



98208 1869 PR66 Cameo PCGS. CAC. V-2. Ex: Eliasberg. The obverse of this CAC-approved piece is lightly toned with delicate reddish-gold shades layered over glassy surfaces. The reverse is a colorful delight, featuring steel-blue and russet throughout the wreath, all of which surround a brilliant center. The mirrored fields are smooth and uninterrupted by the clash marks that so often plague the business strike coins in this series.

Variety: V-2. The date is vertically centered, and right of the shield point.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports four submitted in PR66 Cameo and one finer. NGC accounts for six in this grade and 11 finer. This is one of two PR66 Cameo coins with the CAC approval, and no Cameos are finer.

Heritage Commentary: A finer pedigree can hardly be imagined, passing from the Eliasberg Collection directly to Gene Gardner. Few collectors will compete on the same scale, but meaningful sets can be formed within a more limited scope. A set of proof half dimes, including this pedigreed example, might be one such endeavor.

Provenance: *Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection (Bowers & Merena, 5/1996), lot 1027. NGC ID# 2366, PCGS# 84452*

1870 Half Dime, PR66
Colorful Toning



98209 1870 PR66 PCGS. Magnificent peach-orange, rose, violet, ice-blue, and sea-green patina blankets the obverse. The reverse is much lighter in shade with delicate orange and lavender toning over the wreath and borders, while the center remains largely brilliant. The fields are deeply mirrored, generating moderate contrast on the obverse and a bold cameo effect on the reverse.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows 19 in PR66 (one PR66+) and three finer, while NGC reports 25 in this grade (one PR66+) and nine finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1870 1,000-proof mintage is tied for the highest production with the 1860 and 1861 issues. Many of the earlier proofs from that period were melted, making the 1870 the most available of the three dates and one of the most collectible proof issues in the entire series.

Provenance: Purchased from *Rare Coins of New Hampshire* (12/2001). NGC ID# 2367, PCGS# 4453

EARLY DIMES

1796 Dime, AU58
JR-2, Two-Year Type
First United States Dime Issue



98210 1796 JR-2, R.4, AU58 NGC. This attractive near-Mint 1796 dime displays light steel-gray centers yielding to darker olive and slate-blue peripheries. The strike is mostly sharp save for the usually seen central softness; evidence of slight friction over the high points is practically imperceptible. Overall, this is an eye-appealing first-year dime showing minimal abrasions and no shortage of numismatic and historic significance.

Variety: JR-2, R.4. The wide space between the 1 and 7 in the date, and the berry under the left side of the first S in STATES identify the variety. The leaf tip is distant from the I in AMERICA — another diagnostic marker of this R.4 variant.

Population Data (9/15): For the 1796 date NGC reports 91 submissions in higher grades, including all varieties, a figure that is undoubtedly inflated by resubmissions and crossovers.

Heritage Commentary: The 1796 is always in demand: It represents the first U.S. dime issue and features a design that was only implemented for two years. The reported mintage is just 22,135 pieces, comprising six known die combinations. The JR-2 variety is scarce, accounting for approximately 5% to 10% of the surviving population of 1796 dimes. According to Ron Guth, the JR-2 should “command a premium over the common type price, especially for nice examples.” This example, just a whisper away from Mint State, is one such.

Provenance: ANA Signature (*Heritage*, 8/2010), lot 3070. NGC ID# 236B, PCGS# 38743 Base PCGS# 4461

1796 Dime, Rare JR-5, AU55
Early United States Dimes Plate Coin
Likely the Finest Available



98211 1796 JR-5, R.5, AU55 PCGS. This is a well-struck coin with only a two small areas of incompleteness on the eagle's breast and leg, as always. Partial luster remains under a layer of rich patina with accents of rose and sea-green, and each side has a degree of reflectivity. High-point friction is at an absolute minimum, and a few small pinscratches do not detract from the abundant appeal.

Variety: JR-5, R.5. The leaf tip is close to I in AMERICA, the berry is under the upright of E in UNITED, the leaf tip is under F in OF, 79 in the date is widely spaced, and T in LIBERTY is right of the hair curl. A rare variety.

Population Data (9/15): For the date, PCGS lists 19 examples in AU55 with 77 finer submissions, including all varieties.

Heritage Commentary: JR-5 is one of the two 1796 dime varieties with an R.5 rating, and it is unusual in anything approaching the quality of this Choice AU coin. This piece was cited in the 1984 *Early United States Dimes* reference (where it served as the plate coin) as the finest the authors had seen, and it remains perhaps the finest example of the variety available. This is a relatively late die state, featuring a vertical die crack that bisects the obverse between 1 o'clock and 5 o'clock.

Provenance: An unknown late-1930s Wayte Raymond Sale, lot 395; Harold Bareford Collection (*Stack's*, 10/1981), lot 132; Allen F. Lovejoy Collection (*Stack's*, 10/1990), lot 6; private collection; William H. LaBelle, Sr. Collection (*American Numismatic Rarities*, 7/2005), lot 977; Baltimore Signature (*Heritage*, 3/2009), lot 786. NGC ID# 236B, PCGS# 38746 Base PCGS# 4461



1796 JR-6 Dime, MS64 ★ Prooflike
Ex: Bareford, Whitney, Price
A Coin of Impeccable Quality and Provenance



98212 1796 JR-6, R.3, MS64 ★ Prooflike NGC. Ex: Ed Price Collection. This Prooflike near-Gem features pale champagne-gold toning with additional blue and rose hues near the reverse border. The design elements are full, even in the centers, including complete breast feathers. The surfaces exhibit a few microscopic abrasions that limit the grade. In the Bareford catalog, Stack's mentioned that in the past this coin was "claimed to be Brilliant Proof."

Variety: JR-6, R.3. There are two key diagnostics for this variety: All of the letters in LIBERTY are separated, and there is a thick die crack that extends horizontally through the 17 in the date. In this later die state, the crack lengthens from the rim along the left side of 9, upward to Liberty's neck, through the hair and the upper left obverse field to star 8. On the reverse, another prominent crack appears along the rim near 10 o'clock, angling diagonally downward between ST in STATES, through the left branch to the top of the eagle's left (facing) wing, across the right wing and branch to the left side of M, then to the rim.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows two MS64 Prooflike submissions, but this is the only one with a Star designation. There is one finer MS66 Prooflike coin at that service. These figures include all die varieties.

Heritage Commentary: According to the John Reich Collectors Society reference on early U.S. dimes (1984), there were 10,244 examples of this die marriage produced: 3,864 pieces on February 28, 1797, and 6,380 coins on March 21, 1797. The JR-6 examples were struck in addition to the 22,135 pieces that constitute the official mintage figure for 1796-dated dimes, pushing the actual mintage number to 32,359 coins (this information is credited to researcher Robert P. Hilt II, among others). The authors further estimate that representatives of the JR-6 variety account for approximately 30% of all 1796 dimes extant.

This coin has featured in some truly stellar collections in the past, including the Harold Bareford Collection (where Allen Lovejoy described the dime varieties from the manuscript in production), where this coin realized \$26,000; that of "Mr. 1796" John Whitney Walter, where this example of the JR-6 was described as "Superb Gem Brilliant Uncirculated" and "tied for finest known with the Eliasberg coin"; and more recently, in our own incredible offering of the Ed Price Collection, where Price called it "my favorite among the 1796 dimes" and noted that the "dime book" calls it MS67."

Provenance: James Kelly (10/1951); Harold Bareford (*Stack's*, 10/1981), lot 133; John Whitney (*Stack's*, 5/1999), lot 1771; Anthony Terranova; Stuart Levine (3/2004); Ed Price Collection / ANA Signature (*Heritage*, 7/2008), lot 1413; Long Beach Signature (*Heritage*, 2/2010), lot 988. NGC ID# 236B, PCGS# 38747 Base PCGS# 4461

1798 Large 8 Dime, Beautiful MS62
JR-4, First-Year Heraldic Type
Sole CAC Example in This Grade



98213 1798 Large 8, JR-4, R.3, MS62 PCGS. CAC. This MS62 1798 dime has much to boast about, from its carefully preserved surfaces to its impressive eye appeal. The obverse exhibits intermingled shades of golden-russet and violet-gray patina with glimpses of brilliance in the recesses, while the reverse has attractive cobalt-blue, rose, and purple coloration. The devices are typically struck with softness on the left obverse stars and the shield, but small scattered marks fail to even remotely affect the allure of this condition rarity.

Variety: JR-4, R.3. The variety shows a Large 8 in the date. A prominent die crack occurs from the rim to the Y in LIBERTY, terminating at Liberty's nose. There are no noticeable die cracks on the reverse.

Population Data (9/15): For the 1798 Large 8, PCGS lists three other MS62 submissions and eight finer. NGC reports one MS62 and three finer for the Large 8. This is the sole 1798 Large 8 in this grade with the CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: In the early days of the first Mint, officials minimized costs by using certain reverse dies to strike both quarter eagles and dimes, as the two denominations had nearly identical diameters (this was the crux of the fantastic Ed Price Collection that we offered in July 2008 at our Summer ANA Platinum Night auction). In the case of this variety, John Dannreuther explains in his *Early U.S. Gold Coin Varieties* (2006) that "quarter eagles were struck first, believed to be all of the Warrant 149 delivery of 480 coins on Dec. 28, 1799. The reverse was then used for the JR-4 1798 dime and finally, the JR-1 1800 dime."

Provenance: *Stack's* (10/1996), lot 153. NGC ID# 236E, PCGS# 38753 Base PCGS# 4466

1802 Dime, JR-4, MS61
Perhaps 10 Mint State Survivors



98214 1802 JR-4, R.3, MS61 NGC. Uniform olive and slate-gray toning graces surfaces that show remarkably few major abrasions given the assigned numeric grade. As one would expect, there are small ticks scattered over each side, but none are particularly distracting. The peripheries are boldly impressed with notable detail on the stars, eagle's wingtips, and olive sprigs, though the central strike definition appears typically soft. Series specialists will regard this as an important opportunity to acquire one of just a handful of Uncirculated survivors.

Variety: JR-4, R.3. This is the so-called "needle beak" variety, with the eagle's beak piercing the points of the closest star. Additionally, star 8 is positioned further from the Y in LIBERTY than on the other varieties for the date. JR-4 is easily the most often seen 1802 variety, but it is a premier rarity in Mint State.

Population Data (9/15): For the year 1802, NGC reports four submitted in MS61 and two MS62 finer. PCGS notes one MS61 submission and four MS62 finer.

Heritage Commentary: This reverse die was first used to strike the 1802 BD-2 quarter eagles, followed by the 1802 JR-4 dime. In 1804, the die was once again employed to manufacture BD-1 quarter eagles and JR-1 dimes. From a mintage of just 10,975 coins, the 1802 survives to the extent of perhaps 150 pieces, of which just 10 or so examples are extant in Mint State.

Provenance: *Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins* (7/2000). NGC ID# 236K, PCGS# 38761 Base PCGS# 4472

1803 Dime, Colorful AU58
JR-4, Virtually Unobtainable Any Finer



98215 1803 JR-4, R.5, AU58 NGC. Colorfully toned in blushes of orange, blue, rose, violet, and yellow, this nearly Uncirculated 1803 dime features strongly struck design motifs with a touch of softness on the left obverse stars and the olive leaves. E PLURIBUS UNUM is fully legible, and the breast and wing feathers are complete. There are numerous clash marks and die cracks throughout, suggesting a later die state.

Variety: JR-4, R.5. A rare variety. The 0 and 3 in the date are widely spaced, and the upright of the E in STATES is far left of the space between the clouds.

Population Data (9/15): Regardless of variety, this dime is tied with one other AU58 submission at NGC. Finer examples at that service include two MS61 coins, one MS63, and one MS64. PCGS reports five in AU58 (one AU58+) and one MS64 finer, again disregarding varieties.

Heritage Commentary: The 1803 may fly under the radar of many collectors, but it is one of the most challenging issues to acquire in XF condition or better. While the reported mintage amounts to 33,040 coins, the *Early United States Dimes* reference (1984) states that the actual mintage is probably closer to 10,000 or 12,000 pieces. To that point, American Numismatic Rarities noted when this example last appeared for sale 10 years ago: "If, as a date, AU-58 1803 dimes are rarer than similarly graded 1794 dollars, 1796 quarter eagles, 1793 Chain cents, or other expensive rarities, this coin seems grossly undervalued and certain to be more prized by future generations of collectors." While those are undeniably among the most historically significant federal coinage issues, the 1803 dime certainly holds its own in terms of rarity and numismatic importance.

Provenance: William H. LaBelle, Sr. Collection (*American Numismatic Rarities*, 7/2005), lot 984. NGC ID# 236L, PCGS# 38765 Base PCGS# 4473

1807 JR-1 Dime, AU58
Attractive Early Dime Type Coin
Last Year of the Heraldic Eagle Reverse



98216 1807 JR-1, R.2, AU58 PCGS. CAC. The partial mint luster remaining throughout this nearly Uncirculated 1807 illuminates largely violet-gray surfaces that show splashes of fiery golden-orange color. The combination generates spectacular eye appeal on each side. Although the margins display softness on the stars and lower reverse legends, the centers are decidedly sharp, especially on the eagle's shield and breast feathers.

Variety: JR-1, R.2. This is the only known die pair for the issue. The reverse was previously used to strike quarter eagles in 1805, 1806, and 1807. It is seen here in its final state with die cracks, clash marks, and areas of shallow design definition from die lapping.

Population Data (9/15): For the year 1807, PCGS shows 30 in this grade of all varieties and several dozen finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1807 is the final year of issue of the Heraldic Eagle type, and it is also the highest-mintage date among early dimes (165,000 coins struck). These factors make it an ever-popular choice among type enthusiasts.

Provenance: Stack's (10/1996), lot 155. NGC ID# 236T, PCGS# 38770 Base PCGS# 4480

BUST DIMES

1811/09 Dime, JR-1, MS62
Low-Mintage Overdate Issue



98217 1811/09 JR-1, R.3, MS62 PCGS. Golden-gray toning with violet, blue, and russet accents covers the obverse. The reverse has mostly violet-gray patina. Each side features crisply defined central motifs with typical softness on a few of the stars, the denomination on the lower reverse, and the arrowheads. This is a pleasing, still-lustrous representative with no overt abrasions. Housed in a green label holder.

Variety: JR-1, R.3. All 1811 dimes were struck from a single die pair, featuring the 11/09 overdate. This is a late die state representative with a shattered reverse.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports two in MS62 and 15 finer; NGC shows three in MS62 and 14 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The Mint was an unprofitable, resource-limited venture in its early years, and employees sought any and all ways to reduce the facility's costs. In the case of the 1811 dime, an unused 1809 obverse die was expediently altered by overpunching the final two digits in the date. A total of 65,180 1811/09 dimes were produced. Breen (1988) explains that "on late impressions from shattered dies, the numerals 09 within 11 are hard to see." The underlying 0 is clearly visible on this Uncirculated offering, while the 9 under the final 1 is less obvious.

Provenance: Purchased from RARCOA (2/1997). NGC ID# 236V, PCGS# 38772 Base PCGS# 4487

1814 STATESOF Dime, Brilliant MS65
Among the Finest JR-5 Examples



98218 1814 STATESOF, JR-5, R.3, MS65 NGC. This is an all-brilliant Gem showing vibrant luster over carefully preserved surfaces. In fact, there is a distinct lack of noticeable pedigree identifiers on either side. The only potential candidate is a dark toning spot within the E of AMERICA. The devices are boldly struck with faint softness on the higher-relief curls, star 7, and the eagle's left (facing) talon. A coin of unsurpassed technical quality.

Variety: JR-5, R.3. This is the most in-demand variety among 1814 dimes, caused when the engraver placed UNITED too high on the reverse, forcing STATESOFAMERICA to appear as a single word. Obverse 3 shows recutting on stars 3 through 5.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports only four submissions in MS65 and two in MS63 of this variety as the sole Mint State examples. The finest STATESOF coins at PCGS are two in AU58 and one MS62.

Heritage Commentary: The 1814 has a mintage of 421,500 coins produced using five die pairs. The STATESOF coins are always popular with collectors and can be located in lower circulated grades with minimal searching. Examples in XF condition or better are rare, and all Mint State survivors are extremely elusive. CoinFacts suspects only five Uncirculated pieces exist. This is one such coin, tied at the top of the Condition Census. Registry specialists will undoubtedly encounter considerable competition from their peers when this lot is called.

Provenance: Rarities Sale (Bowers and Merena, 7/2005), lot 380. NGC ID# 236W, PCGS# 38777 Base PCGS# 4490

1820 Small 0 'Office Boy' Dime, MS67
JR-2, Tied for Finest Graded



98219 1820 Small 0, JR-2, R.3, MS67 NGC. The borders display ice-blue, magenta, rose, and apricot-orange patina that turns to golden-gray toning at the centers. The effect is similar on each side with glistening, coruscating mint luster shining through the attractive toning. The left obverse stars, Liberty's hair curls, and the entire reverse are razor-sharp. Only stars 9 to 13 are lightly impressed. This Superb Gem is devoid of mentionable imperfections, and the surfaces appear as fresh as the day they were struck.

Variety: JR-2, R.3. Popularly referred to as the "Office Boy" variety because of the blundered reverse, this variety shows amateurish recutting and irregular spacing. (STATE)S O(F) is most clearly recut, and the M and E in AMERICA are connected.

Population Data (9/15): Including all varieties, this coin is one of three MS67 submissions at NGC (one in MS67 ★) with none finer. PCGS reports two Small 0 MS67 submissions and none finer. (One 1820 Large 0 in MS68 is the sole finest at PCGS.)

Heritage Commentary: This is one of only two MS67 Capped Bust dimes in Gene Gardner's extraordinary set. The other Superb Gem is an 1834 Large 4 dime. The 1820 is far more elusive in this high grade, and this may actually be the finest "Office Boy" dime known, rivaling the MS67 PCGS example that recently sold in August 2014 as part of Heritage's sale of the Oliver Jung Collection during the ANA Platinum Night auction. NGC ID# 236X, PCGS# 38782 Base PCGS# 4493

1820 Large 0 Dime, MS65
Amazing Eye Appeal, JR-8



98220 1820 Large 0, JR-8, R.3, MS65 PCGS. CAC. Radiant, shimmering luster percolates through a rich layer of colorful patina on the obverse that includes shades of mint-green, teal, yellow, orange, and rose. The same hues appear throughout the reverse, though electric-blue is by far the dominant color. The devices are well-struck, albeit soft on the stars and the eagle's right talon. Each side exhibits a number of light clash marks, but abrasions are nearly unseen without a loupe.

Variety: JR-8, R.3. The JR-8 variety has a Large 0 in the date. Differences between the so-called Small 0 and Large 0 are exceedingly difficult to discern without one of each variety in hand, leading Breen to suggest that variety attribution may be easier based on "old style" versus "modern" lettering. The T in STATES is centered over IB in PLURIBUS.

Population Data (9/15): For the Large 0 dimes PCGS shows 11 in MS65 and seven finer, up to a sole MS68. For the year 1820 NGC reports 20 Gems and 10 higher-graded examples. Only two MS65 Large 0 coins and a single MS66 boast a green CAC sticker.

Heritage Commentary: This is a relatively available date in most grades, as nearly 1 million coins were struck and somewhere around 600 pieces survive. However, collectors desiring a high-end Gem example with attractive original patina would be hard-pressed to locate a better representative. Like so many of Gene Gardner's carefully selected coins, this piece possesses simply amazing eye appeal.

Provenance: 60th Anniversary Sale (Stack's, 10/1995), lot 318. PCGS# 38779 Base PCGS# 4492

1821 Large Date Dime, MS62
JR-5, Repunched Star Variety



98221 1821 Large Date, JR-5, R.3, MS62 PCGS. CAC. Iridescent rose and mint-green color outlines steel-gray central devices, while the borders feature copper-orange patina. The obverse shows a touch of softness on the left stars but is much sharper overall than the reverse, exhibiting incompleteness on the eagle's claws, leg feathers, and olive leaves. A minute tick under star 6 is the only mark worthy of individual mention. Housed in an old green label holder.

Variety: JR-5, R.3. Repunching on star 3 is the quickest pickup point for this somewhat scarcer JR-5 variety. Large Date coins have a curled base 2, whereas the Small Date examples have a flat base 2.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 16 in MS62 and 41 submissions finer, including all Large Date varieties. CAC has given a green sticker to just three MS62 coins and six finer.

Heritage Commentary: Dime output soared to nearly 1.2 million coins in 1821, the first time the denomination's production total reached seven figures. Breen's *Encyclopedia* points out that the mintage "includes many dated 1820." In Mint State, the 1821 Large Date coins are scarcer than the lower-mintage issue that precedes it. Large Date coins are more available than their Small Date counterparts.

Provenance: *Pennsylvania Cabinet (Bowers and Merena, 11/1997), lot 461. NGC ID# 236Y, PCGS# 38795 Base PCGS# 4496*

1821 Dime, JR-8, MS63
Scarcer Small Date Variety



98222 1821 Small Date, JR-8, R.2, MS63 PCGS. CAC. The dynamic iridescent toning on this splendid Select representative generates considerable eye appeal on each side, accounting for the CAC endorsement. Rich purple toning displays elements of mint-green, powder-blue, and gold illuminated by flashes of underlying luster. The central motifs are strongly impressed with softness restricted to the upper stars and the eagle's claws. A prominent clash mark occurs below the motto on the reverse.

Variety: JR-8, R.2. Small Date coins have a date punch intended for quarter eagles. JR-8 diagnostics include the arrows distant from (AMERIC)A and the 0 in the denomination slightly higher than the 1.

Population Data (9/15): The Small Date population data at PCGS show nine examples in MS63 and five finer. This is one of three Small Date dimes in MS63 with the CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: All three Small Date die combinations prove scarcer than their Large Date counterparts. This is reflected in the certified population at PCGS, where fewer than 25% of examples are of the Small Date type. The difference in availability between the two varieties is especially notable in Select condition and better.

Provenance: *Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (1/2001). NGC ID# 236Y, PCGS# 38798 Base PCGS# 94496*

1823/2 Large E's Dime, MS63
Richly Toned and Sharply Struck, JR-3



98223 1823/2 Large E's, JR-3, R.2, MS63 PCGS. CAC. Primarily toned in deep, steel-blue patina, each side of this Select coin displays glints of lighter ice-blue and golden-tan color that provide it with considerable aesthetic appeal. The stars have full centers, and the other devices are equally well-defined. Pleasing luster and minimal marks further the appeal.

Variety: JR-3, R.2. The Large E's variety shows the E's in UNITED STATES higher than the adjacent letters. JR-3 can be distinguished from the only other Large E's variety (JR-2, R.5) by examining the position of star 7, which points to the top of the L in LIBERTY on this variant.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of seven MS63 examples at PCGS with 10 finer submissions.

Heritage Commentary: After only 100,000 dimes were struck in 1822, the Mint ramped up production and accomplished a run of 440,000 coins in 1823. All 1823 dimes are overdates, as the dies from the previous year were reused with a 3 punched over the last 2 — a common resource-conserving practice in those days. PCGS estimates that fewer than 20 Large E's dimes survive in mint condition.

Provenance: 60th Anniversary Sale (*Stack's*, 10/1995), lot 319. NGC ID# 2372, PCGS# 38804 Base PCGS# 4499

1823/2 Large E's Dime, JR-3, MS66
One of Four Top-Graded Survivors



98224 1823/2 Large E's, JR-3, R.2, MS66 NGC. Antique golden-gray patina blankets this Premium Gem 1823/2 example. Accents of lavender, rose, and ice-blue complement the dominant hues, investing each side with marvelous visual quality. From a technical standpoint, the surfaces are virtually flawless with nearly full strike definition and only a few inconsequential grazes.

Variety: JR-3, R.2. The reverse has a Large E punch, and star 7 points to the top of Liberty's headband.

Population Data (9/15): This is the sole finest submission attributed as JR-3 at NGC, and there are two other Premium Gems (one in MS66+ ★) tied at the top of the Condition Census at that service, including all varieties. PCGS reports just a single MS66 representative and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: Remarkably, the average certified grade for the Large E's issue is between VF30 and VF35, meaning this Premium Gem is over 32 grade points finer than the typical survivor. This is a not-to-be-missed chance to obtain a top-certified example and an opportunity that may not present itself again for years to come.

Provenance: Purchased from *Duncan Lee* (3/2003). NGC ID# 2372, PCGS# 38804 Base PCGS# 4499

1830/29 Dime, MS62
JR-4, Very Rare in Mint State



98225 1830/29 JR-4, FS-301, R.2, MS62 PCGS. Abundant luster radiates from beneath golden-gray, violet, and russet toning. The peripheral design elements, including the stars, are sharply rendered, while Liberty's hair curls and the eagle display noticeable softness.

Variety: JR-4, FS-301, R.2. There are two 1830/29 die marriages. JR-4 is distinguished from JR-5 by the T in STATES further left over the I in PLURIBUS. The left base of the M in AMERICA is left of the edge of the scroll.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS has seen three in MS62 and two examples finer, including both overdate varieties. NGC reports four in MS62 and nine finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1830/29 is a popularly collected *Guide Book* and *Cherry-pickers'* variety that was first publicized in 1971. Initially considered extremely rare, the overdated coins are now thought to constitute approximately 20% of surviving 1830 Capped Bust dimes. Still, Mint State representatives like the one offered here are very rare.

Provenance: Stack's (12/1998), lot 1252. PCGS# 38847 Base PCGS# 4519

1835 Dime, Near-Gem
Razor-Sharp Strike, JR-5



98226 1835 JR-5, R.1, MS64 PCGS. The design motifs are almost fully rendered with the only area of incompleteness limited to the four lower olive leaves. Each side is richly patinated in shades of blue, olive, and violet-gray complementing light multicolor iridescence on parts of the reverse. Minuscule scattered marks are undistracting.

Variety: JR-5, R.1. The distance between the 5 in the date and Liberty's lowest hair curl attributes this available variety.

Population Data (9/15): For the year 1835 this is one of 73 in MS64 at PCGS (two MS64+) with 18 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1835 has the highest mintage among all Capped Bust dimes — a production exceeding 1.4 million coins — and JR-5 is among the most plentiful varieties seen. These factors, combined with this Choice example's excellent preservation and eye appeal, make it an ideal type candidate.

Provenance: Stack's (12/1998), lot 1254. NGC ID# 4D5N, PCGS# 38883 Base PCGS# 4527

1835 JR-5 Dime, MS64
Bright Prooflike Surfaces



98227 1835 JR-5, R.1, MS64 PCGS. This brilliant near-Gem is certified as a business strike, yet it exhibits many of the qualities of a proof. The fully struck and thickly frosted devices generate substantial contrast against the moderately reflective fields. However, this may simply be a first-strike coin rather than a proof. The lack of contemporary documentation from the Mint precludes a definitive conclusion from being reached. An immensely desirable example regardless of its origin.

Variety: JR-5, R.1. This variety has a Block 8 in the date, the 5 is positioned 50% left of the curl, and the serif of the C in the denomination appears under the tip of the stem.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS has seen only 20 examples finer than this near-Gem, while NGC reports 29 submissions in higher grades. These figures include all JR varieties.

Heritage Commentary: The description of this coin in the Dr. Carl A. Minning, Jr. Collection catalog reads: "The holder by PCGS is inscribed 'MS-64' and obviously the powers that be at that particular grading service consider it as such. However, to the cataloguer's eye the prooflike surface indicates that at the very least it is a presentation striking, and may well have been issued as a full Proof."

Provenance: Dr. Carl A. Minning, Jr. Collection (Bowers and Merena, 8/1999), lot 1311. NGC ID# 4D5N, PCGS# 38883 Base PCGS# 4527

SEATED DIMES

1838-O No Stars Dime, MS64
First New Orleans Mint Coinage
Wonderful Quality



98228 1838-O No Stars, F-102, R.3, MS64 NGC. The absence of any singularly distracting abrasions is one of the distinguishing features of this lovely Choice example. Light golden patina embraces frosty, moderately granular surfaces. The devices are well-struck with a bit of incompleteness over Liberty's head and the horizontal shield lines.

Variety: Fortin-102. Both Fortin-101 and -102 were struck from the same obverse die, making the mintmark position the quickest way to distinguish one variety from the other. The right-tilting Medium O mintmark is high and left above the bow ribbon.

Population Data (9/15): Nine submissions in MS64, four in MS65, and two in MS66 are the finest at NGC. PCGS shows 17 in MS64 and 13 finer in MS65 (one MS65+).

Heritage Commentary: This is more than just the first branch mint issue in the Seated dime series. The 1838-O represents the first coins struck at the New Orleans facility. May 7 saw the production of the first 30 dimes, followed by a delivery of 30,000 additional coins on June 29. By year's end, the facility would manufacture 406,034 1838-O dimes. This near-Gem, perhaps set aside to commemorate the historic event, is one of the most appealing examples among a small group of high-grade survivors.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (2/2006). PCGS# 537645 Base PCGS# 4564

1838 Small Stars Dime, MS67
Among the Finest Available



98229 1838 Small Stars, Doubled Die Reverse, F-101, FS-801, MS67 NGC. Iridescent blue-green toning blankets the surfaces of this impeccably preserved Superb Gem. The reverse features beautiful apricot-orange and lavender accents. A fully struck and virtually unmarked Small Stars dime that is simply a marvel to behold. Housed in a first generation holder.

Variety: Fortin-101, an early die state of the Small Stars variety. Doubling is evident on the O(NE), D(DIME), and some of the left wreath leaves.

Population Data (9/15): This is the only MS67 Small Stars example at NGC. There is one finer MS68 ★ coin at that service, formerly from the Bob Simpson Collection. That coin sold in October 2014 during the second installment of Gene Gardner's remarkable collection. The finest at PCGS are nine MS65 submissions.

Heritage Commentary: Both Breen (1988) and Greer (1992) estimate that 30,000 Small Star dimes were struck. However, the frequency with which examples appear at auction has led Gerry Fortin to peg the mintage closer to 200,000 pieces. Such estimates have no bearing on the rarity of this piece, as few coins even approach the quality of this Superb Gem.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (11/2004). NGC ID# 2TVT, PCGS# 145483 Base PCGS# 4569

1838 Dime, MS66
Fortin-108a, Partial Drapery
Sole CAC Coin in This Grade



98230 1838 Partial Drapery, F-108a, R.4, MS66 NGC. CAC. A Top 100 Seated Dime Variety. This sharply defined early dime shows crisp detail on Liberty's head as well as the peripheral stars (which were punched in by hand). The deep lilac-gray surfaces feature a lighter accent of rose toning around the margins, making this a colorful, high-end Premium Gem example of this scarce and unusual issue.

Variety: Fortin-108a. The Large Stars, Partial Drapery variety exhibits "heavy die clash from (DIME) between the forearm and knee," according to Al Blythe. This piece shows definite evidence of that clashing and partial evidence of the resulting "drapery" from Liberty's elbow. Star 5 is boldly repunched.

Population Data (9/15): There are only four Premium Gem grading events at NGC with two finer. PCGS reports three MS66 (one MS66+) and a single MS67 finer. This is the sole MS66 coin with CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: Breen (1988) notes that F.C.C. Boyd discovered this popular *Guide Book* variety before 1943. The issue has been a favorite among cherrypickers and Seated dime specialists ever since.

Provenance: Central States Signature (Heritage, 5/2003), lot 5890. PCGS# 537656 Base PCGS# 4570

1838 No Drapery, Large Stars Dime, MS66
Two Finer Examples at PCGS



98231 1838 No Drapery, Large Stars, F-110, R.4, MS66 PCGS. Sharply struck and attractive, this Premium Gem shows blended violet, lilac, blue, and orange hues over each carefully preserved side. Vibrant luster glistens through the patina, rounding out the appeal.

Variety: Fortin-110. Star 1 nearly touches the rock, and a die crack runs from the lower-right obverse rim below Liberty's sandal through the base to the lower gown. The reverse is a late die state of the Partial Drapery reverse with a weak die clash mark behind the E in DIME. Fortin rates the variety as an R.4.

Population Data (9/15): For the 1838 No Drapery, Large Stars, PCGS reports 16 submitted in MS66 and two finer. NGC shows 30 coins in the same grade (one in MS66+) with 10 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1838 No Drapery, Large Stars dime is a collectible first-year type, showing 13 hand-punched stars around the upper obverse border. Premium Gem is about the highest grade most collectors can realistically hope to locate, as finer examples are extremely rare and fetch ever-strong prices when they appear at auction.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (11/2001). PCGS# 537665 Base PCGS# 4568

1839 Dime, Razor-Sharp MS66
Perfect No Drapery Type Candidate



98232 1839 No Drapery, Repunched Date, F-102, R.3, MS66 NGC. Every detail on this radiant Premium Gem, from the stars to Liberty's head to the bowknot, is fully struck. The central areas on each side are lightly patinated, while the edges feature multicolor toning in shades of golden-orange, purple, and cobalt-blue. Marks are few and far between, as expected for a coin in this high grade. Housed in an NGC 8 holder, which was used for only one month in September 2000.

Variety: Fortin-102. This variety shows a medium, level date with slight repunching on 39 in the date. A large die clash mark occurs above the E in DIME. Reverse B is left over from 1838.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of 19 MS66 submissions at NGC (one in 66+) with 21 finer. PCGS reports 11 in MS66 and nine finer.

Heritage Commentary: With a mintage exceeding 1 million coins, the 1839 is an ideal No Drapery type issue. Examples are widely available in lower Mint State grades and can be found with minimal searching even through the Gem grade level. Premium Gems are rare, especially as well-struck and attractive as this piece.

Provenance: Purchased from Aspen Park Rare Coins (4/2005). PCGS# 537668 Base PCGS# 4571

1839-O/O No Drapery Dime, MS66+
Repunched Mintmark Variety, FS-501



98233 1839-O/O No Drapery, Large O, F-104a, FS-501, High R.4, MS66+ NGC. CAC. A Top 100 Seated Dime Variety. This lovely Premium Gem exhibits colorful gold and aqua toning over original, unperturbed surfaces that are strongly struck overall. Liberty's head and the corresponding area on the reverse are a touch soft, but almost inconsequentially so. The high aesthetic quality matches the extraordinary technical grade.

Variety: Greer-102, Fortin-104a, FS-501. Star 8 is boldly repunched, as is the Large O mintmark on the reverse. A die crack bisects the reverse, starting from the rim, through the downstroke of the I in UNITED, crossing through the wreath, DIME, and meandering downward to the rim again near the C in AMERICA.

Population Data (9/15): Examples in the impressive grade are very rare, regardless of variety. NGC has seen only six coins in MS66 (one in MS66+) with four finer pieces. There are three Premium Gems at PCGS and two finer. The figures are likely inflated by resubmissions.

Heritage Commentary: This is the first issue of the Stars Obverse subtype struck at the Southern branch mint, so it is unsurprising that examples were set aside to commemorate the event. It is surprising, however, that this Premium Gem has remained in such pristine condition for more than 175 years.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2012), lot 3325. PCGS# 537685 Base PCGS# 4572

1840-O No Drapery Dime, MS60
Condition Rarity, Gold CAC Sticker



98234 1840-O No Drapery, Small O, F-109a, R.4, MS60 PCGS. Gold CAC. Blended golden-gray, lilac, and olive hues dominate the obverse, while the reverse displays powder-blue and steel-gray centers with dappled crimson color around the borders. The lustrous underlying surfaces are remarkably high-end for the grade and fully merit the rarely awarded gold CAC sticker. Encapsulated in an old green label holder.

Variety: Fortin-109a, Small O mintmark. This is a late die state with bold die cracks from the rim through the R in AMERICA, S1 in STATES, and the F in OF. Star 9 is lightly repunched.

Population Data (9/15): Including all varieties, PCGS shows this example in MS60 and 12 finer. There are six in Mint State at NGC: one MS61, four MS62, and one MS65.

Heritage Commentary: Only a handful of the 1.2 million dimes struck in New Orleans in 1840 (all from No Drapery dies) were saved for numismatic purposes. Low-grade examples are available, but just 20 or so coins probably survive in Mint State.

Provenance: Frog Run Farm Collection (American Numismatic Rarities, 11/2004), lot 560. PCGS# 537743 Base PCGS# 4574

1840 Drapery Dime, Fully Struck MS61
Extremely Rare in Mint State



98235 1840 Drapery, F-101, R.3, MS61 ANACS. Steel-blue and sea-green toning frames the peripheries, ceding to violet and golden tones at the centers. The issue is usually plagued by soft strikes, particularly on Liberty's head and the bowknot, but this Mint State coin features fully struck devices throughout. Clean surfaces with partial reflectivity in the fields.

Variety: Fortin-101, rated as R.7 in Mint State. This is the only die pair for the issue with a medium, downward-sloping date.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows six coins finer than this ANACS-certified example, with none in MS61. There are two MS61 coins at NGC with five finer submissions.

Heritage Commentary: This is the first year that Robert Ball Hughes' modified design was implemented. The Philadelphia Mint only managed a production of 377,500 Drapery representatives late in 1840, compared to almost 1 million No Drapery dimes produced earlier in the same year. In their sale of the Albert W. Savage Collection, Stack's wrote of this example: "Exceptionally rare, especially so well struck. Possibly sharper than even the Hayes specimen."

Provenance: Kamal Ahwash (6/1974); Allen F. Lovejoy Collection (Stack's, 10/1990), lot 199; Albert W. Savage Collection (Stack's, 10/1997), lot 461. NGC ID# 2383, PCGS# 537747 Base PCGS# 4578

1840 Drapery Dime, Lightly Toned MS63
An Attractive Condition Census Example



98236 1840 Drapery, F-101, R.3, MS63 PCGS. CAC. The obverse displays light golden and russet overtones with occasional lavender accents. The reverse remains largely brilliant with blushes of toning reminiscent of the patina found on the obverse. Each side is well-preserved save for a few tiny ticks scarcely visible without magnification. A typical strike exhibits mild incompleteness on Liberty's head and the bowknot. Captivating eye appeal.

Variety: Fortin-101, the only variety for the issue. Fortin gives an R.7 rarity rating in Mint State.

Population Data (9/15): There are only three MS63 examples at both major grading services combined, all in PCGS holders. PCGS reports two finer and NGC three finer submissions. This is the sole CAC example in this grade.

Heritage Commentary: The 1840 Drapery issue is sought-after as a first-year type, but the date's low mintage (377,500 coins) and paltry survival rate mean collectors often have to settle for well-circulated examples. Mint State pieces such as this are extremely rare, seldom offered, and worthy of a premium bid.

Provenance: Purchased from Bill Nagle (4/2006). NGC ID# 2383, PCGS# 537747 Base PCGS# 4578

1840 Drapery Dime, Brilliant MS64
Ex: Bob Simpson Collection



98237 1840 Drapery, F-101, R.3, MS64 PCGS Secure. CAC. Ex: Simpson. Both sides are fully lustrous and sharply defined with wispy champagne toning over brilliant silver surfaces. A few scattered marks on each side are consistent with the grade.

Variety: Fortin-101. This is the only die pair for the issue with a medium, downward sloping date.

Population Data (9/15): This is the only Choice representative at PCGS, while NGC reports two in MS64 (one MS64+ ★). PCGS and NGC have each seen a single submission finer.

Heritage Commentary: Most 1840 Seated Liberty dimes are of the No Drapery type, with few of the later With Drapery pieces minted. Fortin has identified eight different die varieties of the No Drapery coins, but only one variety of the With Drapery type. The specialist will understand how important an opportunity is presented here.

Consignor Commentary: I know the coin is white, but sometimes for an issue this rare (R.7 in Mint State) you have to make compromises. In this case a terrific strike overcame my reservations (it would qualify for a "Full Head" designation). Fortin does state in his notes that fully struck examples are extremely rare and worth a considerable premium.

Provenance: Bob Simpson Collection / Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 9/2010), lot 3622. NGC ID# 2383, PCGS# 537747 Base PCGS# 4578

1841 Dime, MS66
Richly Patinated Surfaces



98238 1841 F-104, R.3, MS66 NGC. Shrouded in a veil of blue-green and rose-pink toning, the surfaces feature strongly detailed devices with softness confined to Liberty's head and the reverse wreath leaves. Flashes of luster beam through the toning, and marks are minimal when viewing the coin either in-hand or with a loupe.

Variety: Greer-101, Fortin-104. Digits 184 in the date show repunching, and die lines occur from the dentils beside stars 12 and 13. The reverse, rotated 18 degrees right, is free of die rust and shows bold central legends. Fortin rates the variety as an R.3 overall and suggests a small premium between 10% and 30%.

Population Data (9/15): This Premium Gem is one of four such coins at NGC with three finer examples. PCGS reports two coins in MS66 and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1841 *Mint Director's Report* explained that "in consequence of the small supply of bullion, [the principal mint and its branches] have been only partially employed, so that the amount of work done by them has fallen far below what they are able to execute." Still, over 1.6 million dimes were struck in 1841. Although the issue is generally obtainable through Choice condition, Gems are very rare and MS66 pieces are extremely rare.

Provenance: Dallas Signature (Heritage, 12/2005), lot 432; purchased from Pinnacle Rareities (3/2007). PCGS# 537751 Base PCGS# 4579

1841 Dime, Wonderfully Toned MS67
Condition Census Coin



98239 1841 F-107, R.3, MS67 NGC. A crisply struck Superb Gem, this piece displays none of the mushiness of detail that often plagues this series. Free of significant contact marks, the surfaces feature a rich blanket of lavender, blue-green, and orange patina over both sides with vibrant luster beneath the toning.

Variety: Fortin-107, Medium Level Date, perfect reverse die.

Population Data (9/15): This MS67 coin, one MS67+, and one MS68 are the finest at NGC. The finest at PCGS are two in MS66.

Heritage Commentary: Seated dime specialists are sure to recognize the importance of this offering. The 1841 is plentiful in circulated grades and relatively available through Choice condition. Anything finer is prohibitively rare. This is one of the top-graded survivors and a surefire Registry Set contender.

Consignor Commentary: A common variety of a surprisingly scarce date in high grade. Deeply toned and vividly colored, showing no marks, scratches, or blemishes.

Provenance: ANA Signature (*Heritage*, 7/2005), lot 5828; purchased from Jason Carter (9/2006). PCGS# 537755 Base PCGS# 4579

1841 Seated Dime, Original MS66
A Gorgeous Condition Census Coin
Sole CAC Example So Graded



98240 1841 F-110a, R.4, MS66 NGC. CAC. Speckled golden-violet iridescence appears over otherwise silvery powder-blue surfaces on each side of this Premium Gem. The magnificent toning attests to the originality of the piece and accounts for the CAC “green bean” approval sticker. The 1841 is often found softly struck, but this coin shows full star centers and strong wreath definition. Liberty’s head and the bow are typically defined.

Variety: Fortin-110a. Fortin writes: “I believe that the Variety 110a business strikes are from the 1841 With Drapery proof dies due to similar obverse date placement and weakness in the reverse wreath. The date position is the only diagnostic for Obverse 8.”

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports four grading events in MS66 with three examples finer, while the finest coins at PCGS are two Premium Gems. Of those six submissions in MS66, the Gardner coin is the lone example with the CAC green approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: The issue’s mintage in excess of 1.6 million coins was the largest production of dimes at the Philadelphia Mint up to that point. The 1841-O was struck to the extent of over 2 million coins — a record at the time, though it was surpassed by the 1842-O a year later.

Provenance: Dr. Jon Kardatzke Coin and Currency Collection, Part 1 (*Goldberg Auctions*, 2/2000), lot 562. PCGS# 537759 Base PCGS# 4579

1842-O Dime, MS62
Rare in Mint State, Gold CAC Sticker



98241 1842-O Medium O, F-101, R.3, MS62 PCGS. Gold CAC. This 1842-O coin has much in common with the 1840-O No Drapery representative that precedes it in this sale. Both have overtly original surfaces with golden-gray and lilac obverse toning, although the reverse on this piece is almost fully brilliant. Both coins also boast a coveted gold CAC approval sticker, indicating they are undergraded by at least one full grade point. Sharply detailed for an O-mint product and minimally marked.

Variety: Fortin-101, Medium O mintmark.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports six submitted in MS62 and 11 finer, while NGC shows four in MS62 and 14 finer. This is the only Mint State 1842-O with the Gold CAC label.

Heritage Commentary: Like its New Orleans contemporaries, this issue was struck to a considerable extent (2 million coins, though Fortin believes that figure is overstated) and experienced widespread circulation in the port city. Mint State coins are very rare.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (1/2001). PCGS# 537792 Base PCGS# 4582

1845 Seated Dime, MS66
Fortin-107, Repunched Date Variety



98242 1845 Repunched Date, F-107, R.4, MS66 NGC. A Top 100 Seated Dime Variety. Luminous golden-russet surfaces exhibit orange and violet accents, generating vivid eye appeal. This Premium Gem is sharply defined throughout and expectedly clean given the high technical grade. A must-have coin for the Seated dime, variety, or Registry Set enthusiast.

Variety: Greer-103, Fortin-107. Also known as the 1845/1845 variety, repunching is evident on all digits in the date. Reverse F features a die crack from (STATE)S through OF to the rim above A(MERICA).

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports five in MS66 (one in MS66 ★) with three examples finer, while PCGS reports four pieces in MS66 (one MS66+) and none finer. These figures include all varieties for the date, making this possibly the finest Fortin-107 example extant.

Heritage Commentary: This Philadelphia issue claims a mintage of over 1.7 million coins. Several repunched date varieties exist, but none are as sought-after as Fortin-107. The suggested premium for this variant is between 50% and 100%.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (8/2008). PCGS# 537828 Base PCGS# 4586

1845 Dime, Flashy Premium Gem



98243 1845 F-108, R.3, MS66 NGC. This flashy Premium Gem shows strong definition on Liberty's head and the wreath. Only a few of the right obverse stars display a touch of softness. Lively luster combines with a medium coating of reddish-golden toning on the obverse and attractive turquoise-blue patina on the reverse. A lovely piece and a rare find this nice.

Variety: Fortin-108. This variety pairs Obverse 5 with Reverse G. All digits in the date are repunched. The reverse shows die clash marks in (D)IME and a die crack from the rim through I in UNITED.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports five examples in MS66 (one in MS66 ★) with three finer. The finest examples at PCGS are four submissions in MS66, including one MS66+.

Heritage Commentary: Like the other "common" Seated dimes of the 1840s, this issue (1.7 million coins struck) falls off markedly in availability above the near-Gem level. This piece grades almost 10 points higher than the average certified representative.

Provenance: *Central States Signature* (Heritage, 5/2004), lot 6558; purchased from Jason Carter (11/2004). PCGS# 537830 Base PCGS# 4586

1845-O Dime, AU53
Extremely Rare in Finer Condition



98244 1845-O F-101a, R.4, AU53 PCGS. Richly toned in shades of purple-plum, golden-tan, and olive, this lightly circulated New Orleans dime exhibits a slight trace of wear over the high points. The only marks of note are a few small ticks in the right obverse field and below the E in ONE. A great-looking example.

Variety: Fortin-101a, High Level Date, Large Thin O mintmark. Both the obverse and reverse dies show signs of polishing. A die crack extends from the rim to the R in AMERICA.

Population Data (9/15): This is the sole AU53 at PCGS, which shows four finer: an AU55, an AU58, an MS62, and the incredible MS69 that was also part of the Gardner Collection. NGC data show two in AU53 and six finer, the finest a pair in MS62.

Heritage Commentary: Seated dime production at the Louisiana facility increased to 230,000 coins in 1845, a relatively small figure compared to O-mint issues from the early 1840s. About Uncirculated coins are very rare, and the issue is rated R.8 in Mint State with perhaps four pieces extant. Remarkably, the finest example is the Stickney-Clapp-Eliasberg coin graded MS69 by PCGS. Gene Gardner's name is now added to that historic pedigree, as the coin resided in his collection for over 10 years before it was sold as part of our Gardner Part III Signature (Heritage, 5/2015), lot 98226. Described as "arguably the finest existing coin from the New Orleans Mint," the phenomenal dime brought \$123,376 after the final bid among 11 different competitors for the lot.

Provenance: *Lemus Collection of United States Dimes, 1796-1916 / New York Auction* (Stack's, 10/2005), lot 583. PCGS# 537834 Base PCGS# 4587

1849 Seated Dime, MS66
Among the Four Finest Examples



98245 1849 F-101, R.4, MS66 NGC. The obverse is lighter toned than the reverse, but each side shows similarly brilliant centers that progress to violet and golden-russet patina at the margins. A semicircular area of toning occurs in the upper left portion of the reverse. Sharply struck aside from star 13 with softly frosted, minimally marked surfaces.

Variety: Fortin-101, identified by a thin, level date with no reverse die cracks.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports three in MS66 and none finer, while PCGS shows a single MS66 and one finer, an MS67.

Heritage Commentary: This is one of two top-graded 1849 Seated dimes in the Gardner Collection. Gene Gardner also owned the MS66 PCGS coin (at the time the sole finest at that service — the MS67 PCGS piece is a recent addition) that sold as lot 30251 in the first installment of his collection (Heritage, 6/2014), where it brought \$14,100.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (12/2005). PCGS# 537857 Base PCGS# 4591

1852-O Dime, MS63
Fantastic Antique Patina



98246 1852-O F-101, R.4, MS63 PCGS. CAC. Like so many of Gene Gardner's coins, this New Orleans dime displays fantastic antique patina over both sides in shades of powder-blue and slate-gray. The stars show full radial lines, and Liberty's head and the knot on the lower wreath are well-detailed. Small abrasions, all of which are inconsequential when taken individually, are lightly scattered over each side.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.6 in Mint State. This variety has a very high, downward-sloping date and a Large Thin O mintmark.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS enumerates six in MS63 and five finer, while NGC lists five comparable submissions and 11 finer.

Heritage Commentary: One obverse die and two reverse dies are identified to date, calling into question the reported mintage of 430,000 pieces. It is unlikely that one obverse die was used to strike that many coins, leading Gerry Fortin to believe that the actual mintage falls short of the stated production for the issue.

Provenance: Hawn, Miller, Globus Sale (Stack's, 5/1998), lot 392. PCGS# 537938 Base PCGS# 4598

1853 No Arrows Dime, MS68
One of the Finest Certified



98247 1853 No Arrows, F-101a, R.5, MS68 NGC. A Top 100 Seated Dime Variety. This incredible MS68 coin displays radiant luster over surfaces with medium cobalt-blue patina around the borders that transitions into vivid lavender and golden-tan hues. The design elements are sharply impressed without any areas of weakness. Both sides are essentially flawless.

Variety: Fortin-101a. Die clashing occurs between Liberty's right (facing) arm and the drapery. The reverse has die defects on the E's in ONE and DIME. This may be a later, unlisted die state, as obverse clash marks behind Liberty's head are either very faint or do not show.

Population Data (9/15): Each service lists four MS68 grading events and — not a great surprise — no submissions finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1853 No Arrows dime claims a mintage of 95,000 business strikes, consisting of two deliveries: February 17 (55,000 pieces) and February 19 (40,000 pieces). Immediately after its production, the Mint Act of February 21, 1853 reduced the weight of all subsidiary silver coins to stimulate their circulation, as the rising price of the white metal in relation to gold resulted in widespread hoarding. The weight of the dime decreased from 2.67 gm to 2.49 gm. Arrows were added to each side of the date to distinguish the lower-weight coins. The issue is scarce in all grades. According to Walter Breen (1988): "Mint State survivors mostly come from a batch (small hoard?) rescued by Harold P. Newlin before 1883." Newlin is known for his 1883 classification pamphlet on early half dimes and a roster of the rare 1802 half dimes.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 6/2006), lot 1042. NGC ID# 238R, PCGS# 537941 Base PCGS# 4599

1853 Arrows Dime, MS65
Eye-Catching Reflectivity



98248 1853 Arrows MS65 PCGS. CAC. F-121. This golden-gray beauty is an amazing Gem with minor clash marks but no evidence of die cracks on either side. The fields are fully mirrored, and the resulting contrast is sufficient to provide a delightful cameo appearance. This coin is sharply struck with every detail showing remarkable completeness.

Variety: Fortin-121. Identification of the obverse is fairly simple considering the number of possible die pairs. The right arrow stem is lightly joined to the upper right curve of the 3. Actually, the stem and upper rear edge of the right arrow are recut, and it is the recutting of the stem that contacts the 3 in the date.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS and NGC respectively show 59 and 60 finer submissions.

Heritage Commentary: While the Fortin-121 variety is not particularly rare (R.4), this piece may be the finest known. A generous mintage of over 12 million coins makes the issue relatively available overall. However, coins in this high grade with eye-catching reflectivity are definitely in the minority.

Provenance: Houston Signature (Heritage, 11/2007), lot 60321. NGC ID# 2398, PCGS# 4603

1854-O Arrows Dime, MS67
Tied for Finest Certified



98249 1854-O Arrows, F-111, R.4, MS67 NGC. The surfaces on this amazing coin are thickly frosted and free from discernible abrasions. The obverse has rich rose coloration centrally surrounded by deep cobalt-blue toning at the margin. The reverse is flashy and brilliant. An extremely attractive coin for the advanced collector.

Variety: Fortin-111.

Population Data (9/15): There are three MS67 examples tied for finest at NGC (one MS67 ★). The finest at PCGS are one each in MS66 and MS66+.

Heritage Commentary: The 1854-O Arrows dime is appreciably scarcer than its P-mint counterpart in all Mint State grades, particularly at the Gem level of preservation. In MS67, the issue becomes an noteworthy condition rarity.

Consignor Commentary: F-111, but it must be a very early die state, as there are none of the obvious die cracks usually expected of this variety. Only a hint of one is seen from star 1 toward the date, and another lightly connects the bases of the 8 and 5 in the date. Overall eye appeal is strong.

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2003), lot 6399. PCGS# 538036 Base PCGS# 4606

1856 Small Date Dime, MS63
Doubled Die Obverse, Fortin-109



98250 1856 Small Date MS63 NGC. CAC. F-109. Blue and gold hues prevail over each side. The lustrous, minimally abraded surfaces display bold strike definition on the reverse, though the obverse is somewhat softly detailed. This is a lovely, original example with plenty of eye appeal.

Variety: Greer-101, Fortin-109. Die lapping is most prominent on stars 1 through 3 and on the date. The obverse die is visibly doubled at the lower pole and at the upper vertical lines within the shield.

Population Data (9/15): For the 1856 Small Date, NGC has seen 22 finer submissions, while PCGS shows 57 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1856 Small Date dime is several times more available than its Large Date counterpart, making this Select example perfect for a date or type set. Gene Gardner acquired this coin during the sale of the Frog Run Farm Collection. It was included in a two-piece lot that contained an 1856 Large Date dime graded MS63 by NGC, which is also found in this sale.

Provenance: Frog Run Farm Collection (American Numismatic Rarities, 11/2004), lot 583. NGC ID# 238U, PCGS# 4609

1856 Dime, MS64
Scarce Large Date Variety



98251 1856 Large Date MS64 PCGS. F-102. This is an example of the scarcer Large Date *Guide Book* variant. The numerals are oversized compared to the space afforded by the exergue. Strongly struck with lively luster beneath attractive gold, orange, and rose patina.

Variety: Fortin-102. This Large Date variety features all digits in the date touching the base of the rock and a die line behind the ribbon bow on the reverse.

Population Data (9/15): For 1856 Large Date dimes, PCGS shows two in MS64 and two finer. NGC reports one Choice example and a single Gem finer.

Heritage Commentary: The simplest way to distinguish between the Small Date and Large Date varieties is by looking at the 5 in the date. The Small Date coins have a Slanted 5, while the Large Date examples show an Upright 5.

Provenance: *Houston Signature* (Heritage, 12/2009), lot 389. NGC ID# 238T, PCGS# 4610

1856 Large Date Dime, MS63
Very Rare in High Grades



98252 1856 Large Date MS63 NGC. CAC. F-103. This Select 1856 dime is well-struck with moderate incompleteness on stars 1 through 3 and on the wreath leaves. Dusky violet-gray patina covers most of the obverse, while the central reverse remains largely brilliant with similar toning around the peripheries. Housed in a former generation holder with a green CAC approval sticker.

Variety: Fortin-103, with a very high, downward-sloping date and a perfect reverse die. According to Gerry Fortin: "Of the four 1856 Large Date obverses, Obverse 3 is clearly the most challenging to locate in higher grades of EF or better."

Population Data (9/15): For the 1856 Large Date, NGC has graded one submission each in MS63, MS64, and MS65, while PCGS shows two in MS63 and four finer.

Heritage Commentary: Although nearly 5.8 million dimes were struck at the Philadelphia Mint in 1856, it is estimated that only 150,000 pieces were of the Large Date variety. Gene Gardner acquired this coin during the sale of the Frog Run Farm Collection. It was included in a two-piece lot that contained an 1856 Small Date dime graded MS63 by NGC, which is also found in this sale.

Provenance: *Frog Run Farm Collection* (American Numismatic Rarities, 11/2004), lot 583. NGC ID# 238T, PCGS# 4610

1856-O Seated Dime, Sharp MS65
Just One Example Finer at Both Services



98253 1856-O Medium O, F-108a, R.4, MS65 PCGS. CAC. Lavishly patinated in purple and blue tones with flashes of glistening luster, this Gem 1856-O dime features bold strike characteristics rarely seen on this issue. The toning effectively conceals any marks preventing an even higher grade assessment. A high-end New Orleans type representative with undeniable appeal.

Variety: Fortin-108a, easily attributed by a die crack from stars 4 to 7, through Liberty's head to star 10. Additional cracks occur on the lower left reverse. Fortin-108a has a medium, upward-sloping date and a Medium O mintmark.

Population Data (9/15): For the 1856 date, PCGS reports three Gems and one MS66 finer. The top-graded examples at NGC are six MS65 coins.

Heritage Commentary: This is yet another testament to Gene Gardner's penchant for quality — technical and aesthetic. The 1856-O is a noted strike rarity, and this piece would be exceedingly difficult (if not impossible) to improve upon.

Consignor Commentary: The obverse shows a full strike, although the denticles are somewhat blunt below the date. The reverse is strongly struck with only a pair of die cracks by the bowknot. Attractively toned with good eye appeal.

Provenance: Stack's (12/1998), lot 1257. PCGS# 538086 Base PCGS# 4612

1856-S Dime, MS63
Only 70,000 Coins Struck
The First San Francisco Dime Issue



98254 1856-S F-101, R.5, MS63 PCGS. The bold strike typically found on the 1856-S is on full display throughout this conditionally rare Select representative. Silver-gray surfaces with occasional golden tinges exhibit subtly frosted luster with moderate granularity in the fields. Three minute ticks on Liberty's left (facing) arm are the only mentionable flaws. A not-to-be-missed S-mint key date. Housed in a green label holder.

Variety: Fortin-101, attributed by a high, downward-sloping date, Large S mintmark, and the absence of die cracks on both sides. Rated R.7+ in Mint State by Brian Greer.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS lists five grading events in MS63 (two in MS63+) with three submissions finer. There are no Select coins at NGC, but the service does report one piece finer in MS64.

Heritage Commentary: Two years after it opened in April 1854, the San Francisco Mint struck its first issue of dimes. The mintage totaled just 70,000 coins, and CoinFacts estimates that 300 or so pieces survive. Only 15 examples are thought to exist in Mint State. Gene Gardner's MS64 PCGS example of this date, ex: Simpson, brought \$19,975 in Part One of our Gardner Collection Signature (Heritage, 10/2014).

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (7/1998). PCGS# 538089 Base PCGS# 4613

1857-O Dime, Richly Toned MS64
Attractive New Orleans Type Coin



98255 1857-O Large O, F-106, R.3, MS64 PCGS. CAC. An array of blue, purple, and golden hues covers the surfaces, while original mint luster illuminates the legends. The strike quality on this Choice piece is decidedly above-average, showing full star centers and excellent wreath definition. Liberty's head is moderately incomplete, as expected. Small marks occur over each side, none worthy of singling out.

Variety: Fortin-106, Medium Level Date, Large O Mintmark.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 35 submitted in this grade and 25 finer.

Heritage Commentary: In 1857, the Louisiana branch mint produced 1.5 million dimes compared to 5.5 million struck in Philadelphia. Although the two issues' overall availability is more similar than their respective mintages imply, the 1857-O is significantly scarcer in Mint State.

Provenance: *Stack's* (12/1998), lot 1258. PCGS# 538116 Base PCGS# 4615

1857-O Dime, Shimmering MS66
Medium O Mintmark, Fortin-107a
Impeccably Struck and Preserved



98256 1857-O Medium O, F-107a, R.3, MS66 PCGS. CAC. Shimmering mint frost combines with delicate golden patina throughout the obverse, while the reverse maintains its brilliance. This beautifully original O-mint dime is nearly fully struck and exceptionally clean, making it a standout choice for type purposes. Housed in a green label holder with CAC approval.

Variety: Fortin-107a, Medium Level Date, Medium O Mintmark.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports nine submissions in MS66 (one MS66+) and two finer. NGC shows 14 in MS66 (one with a Plus) plus eight in MS67 and one in MS68. Of those 24 submissions at the Premium Gem level, this piece is among five such with the CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: The Medium O mintmark is much more elusive than its Large O counterpart in Mint State. Nearly all Medium O representatives are of this Fortin variety.

Consignor Commentary: The variety is easily identified by the die crack on the obverse that runs from a point on the rim below the first star diagonally upward through the rock to Liberty's hand, and again from the same point on the rim down through the rock to the 1 in the date. Although this lovely coin may lie outside the Condition Census, I give it high marks for strong luster and good eye appeal.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (7/2003). PCGS# 538118 Base PCGS# 4615

1858-S Dime, Fully Defined MS65
The Sole Finest Example at NGC
Low-Mintage Key Date



98257 1858-S F-101, R.5, MS65 NGC. Pinpoint-sharp definition on the stars, Liberty's head, and the wreath is the hallmark of this incredible Gem key date. The 1858-S is usually found "well struck" but with "distracting problems" per Brian Greer. This coin has the former quality with none of the latter. Steel-gray surfaces appear somewhat subdued, but the luster remains vibrant. The overall desirability is indisputable.

Variety: Greer-101, Fortin-101. A medium, upward-sloping date, a die defect connecting the ball of the 5 with the upright, and die chips adjacent to stars 12 and 13 confirm the die pair, rated R.7+ in Mint State.

Population Data (9/15): This is the sole finest example at NGC. There is only one finer Premium Gem reported by PCGS (and CAC-endorsed), also formerly in the Gardner Collection. That coin, lot 30258 in our June 2014 Gardner Signature offering, brought \$88,125.

Heritage Commentary: The issue's low mintage and paltry survival rank the 1858-S among the most elusive dates in the series, especially in high grades. Only 60,000 dimes were struck, and nearly every coin experienced some degree of circulation in the West; certified examples average between VF30 and VF35. Approximately 300 to 350 examples survive, but the number of certified coins amounts to just 122 coins at NGC and PCGS combined. Remarkably, there are only eight grading events in Mint State. This coin, near the top of the Condition Census, presents a fantastic opportunity for the Seated dime specialist. PCGS# 538131 Base PCGS# 4618

1858-S Dime, Clean MS62
Conditionally Rare Low-Mintage Issue



98258 1858-S F-102, R.5, MS62 PCGS. Each side is shrouded in a veil of violet-gray patina with elements of pale blue and green. This MS62 condition rarity is fully struck, and minimally scattered marks are well-hidden.

Variety: Fortin-102. This variety has a medium date that is level with respect to the base. Die chips are visible near stars 3 through 6. The Medium S mintmark is centered horizontally and vertically.

Population Data (9/15): There are two MS62 examples at PCGS, and two in MS63 are finer. NGC reports none in MS62 or MS63 but shows one each in MS64 and MS65.

Heritage Commentary: In its second year producing coins of this denomination, the San Francisco Mint accomplished a small production of 60,000 dimes. Augustus G. Heaton wrote of the 1858-S in his seminal 1893 treatise: "The 1858 has a medium s, and in other respects is similar [to the 1856-S]. It is rare." Clearly, the vast majority had been lost through attrition before the end of the 19th century. Today, the issue is rated R.7 in Uncirculated grades.

Provenance: McGreevy, *Lawrence Sale* (Stack's, 5/1997), lot 481. PCGS# 538132 Base PCGS# 4618

1859 Dime, MS67
One Finer at NGC



98259 1859 F-107, R.3, MS67 NGC. This Superb Gem 1859 dime features a richly toned obverse with central pale-orange color that gradually progresses to lilac, mint-green, and blue hues at the borders. The reverse is absolutely free of toning. Softly frosted luster radiates over each side. Typical strike incompleteness is confined to the right obverse stars, Liberty's head, and right (facing) hand.

Variety: Fortin-107. This dime shows tiny die chips near stars 2 through 8, 12, and 13. Obverse 7 is the only die with this date placement relative to the shield point. The reverse is perfect.

Population Data (9/15): In MS67, NGC shows 19 grading events (two in MS67 ★), while PCGS has seen 15 submissions (one in MS67+). Each service reports a single example finer.

Heritage Commentary: There had been a severe oversupply of subsidiary silver coins in the East since the passage of the Mint Act of 1853, which reduced the silver weight of the half dime, dime, quarter, and half dollar. The law explicitly prohibited the free coinage of silver, yet Mint Director James Ross Snowden continued to accept all silver bullion deposits throughout the 1850s, striking subsidiary coins without consideration for their commercial demand. The overabundance of small-denomination silver coins in Atlantic cities helps to explain the relative availability of high-grade P-mint dimes from the mid-to-late 1850s, including the 1859 (429,200 pieces produced).

Provenance: *Palm Beach Signature* (Heritage, 11/2004), lot 6206. PCGS# 538139 Base PCGS# 4619

1859-O Dime, Strongly Struck Gem



98260 1859-O Medium O, F-103, R.3, MS65 PCGS. CAC. Golden-gray dominates each side, while russet and lavender accents are more complementary in nature. The 1859-O is often found well-struck, and this clean Gem exhibits particularly bold detail on Liberty's head, the stars, and the wreath leaves. Lively luster heightens the appeal.

Variety: Greer-101, Fortin-103, with a medium date that slopes upward and a Medium O mintmark.

Population Data (9/15): There are 28 Gems certified between the two major grading services. PCGS claims eight of the coins, while NGC has seen 20 pieces. Only 29 examples are graded higher; 14 coins are in PCGS holders and 15 pieces are in NGC slabs.

Heritage Commentary: The 1859-O is one of the more available O-mint issues in Uncirculated condition. As such, it is a popular choice for inclusion in type sets. Greer and Fortin note that the Medium O mintmark has a slight edge over its Large O brethren in terms of scarcity.

Provenance: *Purchased from Bill Nagle* (4/2003). PCGS# 538142 Base PCGS# 4620

1860-S Dime, MS64
Final-Year Stars Obverse Issue



98261 1860-S F-101, R.4, MS64 NGC. This pleasing, original near-Gem, shows surfaces layered in lilac-gray, tan-gold, and orange patina with flashes of crimson iridescence near the lower reverse border, a softly frosted survivor with bold overall strike definition, free of singularly distracting marks.

Variety: Fortin-101. The medium date slopes downward. Medium S mintmark.

Population Data (9/15): This MS64 NGC piece is tied with one other and there is one MS66 finer. PCGS reports one in MS64 and three in MS65.

Heritage Commentary: The 1860-S is the final business strike issue in the Seated dime series with stars on the obverse and the legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA on the reverse. Both the P- and O-mint deliveries of this year are of the new Legend Obverse type. Delays in transporting the new dies from Philadelphia prevented the San Francisco Mint from implementing the design in a timely manner. Produced to the extent of just 140,000 coins, it is little wonder that this early frontier era issue is difficult to locate in all Mint State grades.

Gene Gardner also owned an MS65 PCGS CAC-approved example of this date, which was lot 98235 in our Gardner Part III Signature (Heritage, 5/2015), where it realized \$37,600 in spirited competition among seven different bidders.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 10/2001), lot 5967. PCGS# 538146 Base PCGS# 4622

1860 Dime, Clean MS66
First Legend Obverse Issue



98262 1860 Doubled Die Reverse, F-101a, R.4, MS66 NGC. Slightly soft on Liberty's head, but well-detailed elsewhere, this carefully preserved Premium Gem displays lovely original toning. The effect appears more dramatic on the reverse, showing deep hues of copper-gold and cobalt-blue. A small mark below the second S in STATES is the only minor blemish on either side of this otherwise flawless coin. Minor clash marks appear throughout.

Variety: Fortin-101a, showing a medium, downward-sloping date. Horizontal die lines occur within Liberty's shield starting from the sixth vertical stripe.

Population Data (9/15): Both services report nearly identical certified populations. NGC shows 10 examples in MS66 and three finer, while PCGS lists 11 coins in MS66 with three finer.

Heritage Commentary: This is the first Philadelphia issue of the Legend on Obverse type, claiming a sizeable mintage of 606,000 coins. Locating a finer example will undoubtedly prove challenging, as the production total belies the true availability of high-grade coins.

Provenance: ANA Signature (Heritage, 4/2006), lot 406. PCGS# 538148 Base PCGS# 4631

1864 Dime, Attractively Toned Gem
Among the Lowest Series Mintages



98263 1864 F-102a, R.5, MS65 PCGS. Brilliant interiors turn outwardly to peach-orange, purple, and cobalt-blue coloration. The strike is crisply defined on the obverse with softness showing on the upper-left wreath. Bold clash marks occur throughout the reverse and to a lesser degree on the obverse. A few scattered flecks limit the grade.

Variety: Fortin-102a, the usually seen business strike die pair.

Population Data (9/15): Of the 16 MS65 submissions at both leading services combined, nine are at PCGS (one MS65+) and seven are at NGC. Finer submissions include five at each service.

Heritage Commentary: The Philadelphia Mint manufactured a meager total of 11,000 business strikes in 1864 with an additional 460 proofs. The issue is consequently always in demand. Perhaps 400 examples survive in all grades, although only 15% are thought extant in Mint State and only 3% in Gem condition or better.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (11/2006). PCGS# 538202 Base PCGS# 4639

1864 Dime, MS65
Only 11,000 Coins Struck



98264 1864 F-102a, R.5, MS65 PCGS. A mix of blue, purple, green, and orange patina covers this key date Gem. Strongly struck aside from mild incompleteness on the bow knot, this lovely example is pleasing in-hand and appears only lightly abraded when examined with a loupe. A singular linear depression occurs in the right obverse field adjacent to the C in AMERICA. Small scattered ticks are undistracting.

Variety: Fortin-102a, Medium Level Date.

Population Data (9/15): There are eight other Gem grading events at PCGS (one MS65+) in addition to this coin, plus seven finer. NGC reports seven in MS65 and five finer.

Heritage Commentary: Ever in search of the finest coins, Gene Gardner managed to amass two Gem PCGS examples of this issue in addition to one MS66 PCGS piece.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (4/2007). PCGS# 538202 Base PCGS# 4639

1864-S Dime, MS64
Pleasingly Toned Condition Rarity



98265 1864-S F-101, Low R.3, MS64 NGC. CAC. Blatantly original olive and golden-russet overtones give this coin the vivid eye appeal for which CAC has awarded a green label sticker. The head and bowknot are typically struck, but the lower obverse and upper reverse are quite sharp — qualities often found on 1864-S examples. The carefully preserved, lustrous surfaces are extraordinarily attractive.

Variety: Fortin-101, the only known dies. Rated High R.6 in Mint State.

Population Data (9/15): NGC has seen two Choice representatives compared to six comparably graded coins at PCGS. Both firms report three finer submissions each.

Heritage Commentary: Seated dime output at the West Coast facility reached 230,000 coins in 1864 — a staggering quantity relative to the 11,000 pieces struck in Philadelphia. However, far fewer 1864-S dimes were saved, and today this S-mint issue is significantly rarer in Mint State than the key-date 1864.

Provenance: Frog Run Farm Collection (*American Numismatic Rarities*, 11/2004), lot 600. PCGS# 538203 Base PCGS# 4640

1865-S Seated Dime, MS63
One of Eight Mint State Coins
None Finer at NGC



98266 1865-S F-101, R.4, MS63 NGC. The issue is notorious for strike softness on Liberty's head and the lower wreath, evident on this Select example. Apart from typical incompleteness, the remaining design features, including the upper wreath, are well-detailed. Mottled crimson, olive, and golden-tan hues intermingle with areas of brilliance. Lightly abraded for the grade with no singularly distracting marks.

Variety: Fortin-101. Attribution points for the variety include a medium, downward-sloping date, a die scratch within the O in ONE, and small, weak mintmark. This is the usually seen variant for the issue.

Population Data (9/15): In all Mint State grades, NGC shows a single MS62 and three in MS63. PCGS reports two in MS63, one MS64, and one in MS65+.

Heritage Commentary: Extensive circulation, exportation, and melting explain the incredible rarity of this issue in Uncirculated condition, given as High R.7 Only eight examples survive in Mint State from a mintage of 175,000 coins. Such pieces are highly prized and rarely appear at auction. Specialists should swiftly seize this opportunity.

Provenance: Frog Run Farm Collection (*American Numismatic Rarities*, 11/2004), lot 602. PCGS# 538206 Base PCGS# 4642

1868 Dime, Frosty Gem
Rarely Seen Finer



98267 1868 F-104a, R.4, MS65 NGC. This example features sunset-orange, magenta, and steel-blue toning that is deeper near the rims. The sharply struck devices feature noticeable frost on each side. A magnificent Gem, rarely seen finer.

Variety: Fortin-104a. This variety is struck from the proof dies and features a high, weak, downward-sloping date with a full S1 in STATES. Random die lines occur over Liberty's gown and shield. The reverse is perfect.

Population Data (9/15): NGC data show eight submissions in MS65 and two finer, both MS66. PCGS lists five submissions and also two MS66 finer.

Heritage Commentary: With a mintage approaching a half-million coins, the 1868 Seated dime ended the run of low-mintage P-mint issues that began in 1863 and continued until 1867. Despite the generous production total, survivors of this issue in higher Mint State grades prove just as, if not more elusive, than the lower-mintage dates that precede it.

Provenance: *Central States Signature* (Heritage, 5/2007), lot 306. PCGS# 538225 Base PCGS# 4647

1868 Dime, All-Brilliant Gem
Coruscating Mint Frost



98268 1868 F-107, R.4, MS65 NGC. The surfaces of this Gem P-mint dime are brilliant with just the slightest trace of toning around the obverse rim. Coruscating frost rolls over each side, and the design motifs display strong definition on Liberty's head and all wreath elements. The date is moderately soft on the lower portion of the digits, and a few pedigree identifying ticks are scattered throughout.

Variety: Fortin-107. The position of the date is the primary diagnostic marker, along with a die line from the Y in LIBERTY and a broken first S in STATES.

Population Data (9/15): NGC and PCGS have seen 13 Gems combined (eight and five pieces respectively). Each firm reports two finer submissions.

Heritage Commentary: Surprisingly, 12 obverse dies were employed to strike 464,000 dimes at Philadelphia in 1868. The high ratio suggests the Mint may have planned a drastic production hike in the wake of several low-mintage years from the early to mid-1860s.

Provenance: *Purchased from Northeast Numismatics* (2/2007). PCGS# 538229 Base PCGS# 4647

1868-S Dime, MS67
One of the Two Finest



98269 1868-S F-101a, R.6, MS67 NGC. Toning enthusiasts will appreciate this coin's dappled color scheme. Shades of olive-copper, crimson, and electric-blue appear on both sides with a few isolated areas of near-brilliance at the centers. Fully struck throughout, the frosty textured surfaces are devoid of even the most trivial blemish. Housed in a prior generation holder.

Variety: Fortin-101a, with strike doubling on the wreath and ribbon.

Population Data (9/15): This MS67 coin is tied with one other example for finest at NGC. The top-graded PCGS representatives are two Premium Gems.

Heritage Commentary: When Heritage last offered this coin in 2001, the cataloger noted: "We have never handled a finer '68-S dime, and we doubt whether one exists." In the last 14 years only a single MS67 example has been added to the NGC *Census Report*, underscoring how rare this issue is in high grades.

Consignor Commentary: Gerry Fortin mentions strike doubling on the wreath and ribbon (F-101a). The doubling on this coin is pervasive throughout the design, and the doubling on the right ribbon end shows on the top rather than the bottom, as illustrated in Fortin.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 10/2001), lot 5979; purchased from Jason Carter (10/2001). PCGS# 538238 Base PCGS# 4648

1869 Dime, MS66+
Semireflective, Sharply Struck



98270 1869 F-105a, R.4, MS66+ PCGS. CAC. The fields are bright and semireflective with evidence of a slight cartwheel effect. Golden-brown patina accents lilac and pearl-gray color overall. This Premium Gem is sharply struck throughout, save for minor softness on the upper left wheat stalk. The attractive eye appeal and superior technical grade have been dually recognized with a Plus designation from PCGS and a green sticker from CAC.

Variety: Fortin-105a. This variety has a long flag on the end of the 1 and a high, slightly upward-sloping date. Die defects in the shield also help confirm the attribution.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS has seen six Premium Gems, but this is the only Plus-designated coin. NGC shows only two in MS66, and each service reports four submissions finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1869 is a scarcer date than one would imagine for an issue with a mintage in excess of a quarter-million pieces. When found in Uncirculated grades, examples are usually sharply struck, as is the case with this coin.

Provenance: Central States Signature (Heritage, 4/2012), lot 3784. PCGS# 538243 Base PCGS# 4649

1869-S Dime, MS65
Extremely Rare Finer
Early White-Label Prehologram NGC Holder



98271 1869-S F-101, R.3, MS65 NGC. CAC. Medium tan-gold and chestnut toning graces this satiny and sharply struck Gem. Beautifully preserved despite minor contact between AM in AMERICA. Difficult to find in such exemplary condition, and housed in a rare white-label, prehologram NGC holder.

Variety: Fortin-101, with a partial first S in STATES and a Small Thin S mintmark.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 14 submissions in MS65 and three finer. PCGS lists four in MS65 and five examples finer.

Heritage Commentary: A generous mintage of 450,000 coins accounts for frequent descriptions of the 1869-S as being “easy” to locate. However, proclamations of the sort can be misleading, as even Gene Gardner had trouble procuring an example that met his strict criteria. The issue is rated R.5 in Mint State.

Consignor Commentary: The first S in STATES is awkwardly connected with its upper tip, confirming the variety. This issue is supposedly the easiest to locate of the San Francisco dates from the 1860s, yet finding a coin in top-notch Gem condition certainly proved challenging.

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2007), lot 2580. PCGS# 538246 Base PCGS# 4650

1870-S Dime, MS65
Among the Rarest S-Mint Dimes



98272 1870-S Misplaced Date, F-101, R.3, MS65 PCGS. CAC. Freckled olive-tan patina overlies richly frosted design features. The obverse remains more brilliant than the reverse. Boldly defined devices (apart from a bit of softness on the left wreath leaves) and minimally marked surfaces round out the broad appeal. A few roller marks occur over the upper-right obverse. Housed in a green label holder.

Variety: Fortin-101, rated R.6+ in Mint State. The only known dies for the issue.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS and NGC show six MS65 coins apiece. There are four finer PCGS-certified examples, while the six Gems at NGC are the finest at that service. Five in this grade have the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1870-S is the rarest S-mint issue in the entire Seated dime series after the 1885-S. Only 50,000 pieces were produced, and this Gem is in the upper echelon of surviving representatives.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 10/2001), lot 5982. PCGS# 538254 Base PCGS# 4652

1871-S Dime, MS64
Delicate Champagne-Gold Patina



98273 1871-S MS64 PCGS. F-102. Delicate champagne-gold patina graces surfaces that feature well-detailed obverse motifs and mostly bold wreath definition. The central portion of the reverse is somewhat soft, as usual for the variety. A minimally abraded condition rarity.

Variety: Fortin-102, attributed by a high, level date, partial S1 in STATES, and a weak mintmark. Rated by Fortin as R.6 in Mint State.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports six in MS64 with three finer, while NGC shows five near-Gems and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: SeatedDimeVarieties.com explains: "Reverse B is always found weak at the denomination and at the lower inner left and right leaves. Reverse B was previously used by the San Francisco mint to strike coinage in 1869 and in 1870." From a mintage of 320,000 coins.

Provenance: Lemus Collection of United States Dimes, 1796-1916 / New York Auction (Stack's 10/2005), lot 655. NGC ID# 23A6, PCGS# 4655

1872 Seated Dime, MS65
Fortin-102, Triple-Punched 2



98274 1872 Misplaced Date, F-102, FS-301, R.2, MS65 NGC. CAC. Reddish-gray, violet, and blue toning covers lustrous surfaces that are basically mark-free. All of the devices exhibit sharp strike definition. An eye-appealing type representative.

Variety: Fortin-102. The 2 in the date is triple-punched, evidence of which is most visible within the upper loop. Two misplaced digits are located in Liberty's gown, just right of the scroll.

Population Data (9/15): There are 15 Gems at NGC and PCGS combined — seven at NGC, eight at PCGS. NGC reports five finer submissions, while PCGS shows three finer. This is one of only two MS65 coins with a CAC approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: Few of the more than 2.3 million pieces struck were spared from circulation. Any Mint State survivor is unusual, and Gems are quite rare.

Provenance: Anaheim Auction (Bowers and Merena, 5/2006), lot 1020. NGC ID# 385A, PCGS# 145493 Base PCGS# 4656

1872-CC Dime, XF45
Problem-Free Carson City Rarity



98275 1872-CC F-101, Low R.4, XF45 PCGS. Bright silver and slate-gray patina adorns this Choice XF Carson City key date representative. Abundant design detail remains despite mild friction over the sharply struck devices. As expected, there are a number of small abrasions on each side, but they are minor. A splendid, problem-free example.

Variety: Fortin-101, the only known dies for the issue.

Population Data (9/15): The 1872-CC is a condition rarity and a key to the Seated dime series, as reflected in the certified population. PCGS has seen 14 submitted in XF45 and only three finer, while NGC reports three in XF45 and five finer.

Heritage Commentary: Early Carson City mintages were highly limited, largely because of the political machinations of Treasury Secretary George S. Boutwell. Boutwell believed two mints, one on each coast, would suffice. The 1872-CC claims a small mintage of 35,480 pieces. Few pieces survive, and they are treasured in any condition. Problem-free XF examples represent the upper tier of availability for the issue — even though this piece was Gene Gardner's “duplicate,” behind an MS63 PCGS coin. This Choice XF key date should command much attention when it crosses the block.

Provenance: Lemus Collection of United States Dimes, 1796-1916 / New York Auction (Stack's, 10/2005), lot 657. PCGS# 538286 Base PCGS# 4657

1873 Closed 3, No Arrows Dime, MS66
None Finer at PCGS
Fortin-103, FS-301, Repunched Date



98276 1873 Closed 3, No Arrows, Repunched Date, F-103, FS-301, R.3, MS66 PCGS. CAC. A Top 100 Seated Dime Variety. This Premium Gem is fairly well-struck with deep blue-green, violet, and gold patina on each side. Vibrant luster enlivens the carefully preserved surfaces, adding to this coin's CAC-approved aesthetic appeal.

Variety: Fortin-103, FS-301. All four date digits show bold repunching with the underdigits somewhat left of the subsequent punches. Seateddimevarieties.com also notes a “diagonal die line in the lower right gown,” clearly visible on this example. Fortin suggests that this R.3 variety is worth a premium of 30% to 50%. The *Cherry-pickers' Guide* comments that “this variety is still very scarce.”

Population Data (9/15): This MS66 piece is among the four finest submitted to PCGS. NGC also shows five Premium Gems (one certified as F-103) with a single MS67 submission.

Heritage Commentary: The year 1873 is significant in the history of American coinage. The Mint Act of 1873 had a number of provisions that included the introduction of the Trade dollar, the abolition of the standard silver dollar, half dime, two cent piece, and a small increase in the weight of subsidiary coins. This Premium Gem was struck early in the year prior to the passage of the bill. Later, an Open 3 replaced the Closed 3, and arrows were added beside the date.

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2012), lot 5483. PCGS# 145494 Base PCGS# 4659

1873 Open 3, No Arrows Dime, MS62
Underrated Issue



98277 1873 Open 3, No Arrows, F-101, R.3, MS62 PCGS. Silver-gray toning covers the obverse of this Uncirculated example. The reverse is similarly shaded, and there is a circular band of light brown at the rim. The only mark of note is a shallow gouge in the right obverse field.

Variety: Fortin-101. The date is low in the field and level. This obverse die is used on the Fortin-101 and 102 varieties, and the crack at the top of the reverse, connecting the tassels, confirms this as the Fortin-101.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports six in MS62 and nine finer. NGC accounts for four in MS62 and nine finer.

Heritage Commentary: Despite a low mintage of 60,000 pieces, this issue is typically priced as a type coin. This is a common situation within the Liberty Seated series — with a large number of dates and mintmarks, attention often focuses on only the rarest dates, leaving potential sleepers available to the astute collector.

Provenance: *Elite Coin Auction (Superior, 1/2007)*, lot 479. PCGS# 538295 Base PCGS# 4660

1873 Open 3, No Arrows Dime, MS64
Tied for Finest at NGC
Strong Registry Contender



98278 1873 Open 3, No Arrows, F-102, R.3, MS64 NGC. A beautiful near-Gem example of this conditionally rare, low-mintage transitional issue. The surfaces are toned in golden-russet hues with glimpses of lavender, lustrous, unabraded, and showing exceptional eye appeal for the grade.

Variety: Fortin-102, with a low, level date and diagnostic die lines in the lower right portion of the wreath.

Population Data (9/15): This MS64 example is tied for finest at NGC with four other submissions. PCGS shows two in MS64 and a single Gem finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1873 Open 3, No Arrows issue was struck during the brief period after the date logotype was changed but before the weight was slightly increased to 2.5 gm. The reported mintage stands at just 60,000 pieces. The issue is extremely rare in Choice condition, and, as stated above, only one PCGS-holdered coin is graded higher. This is a strong Registry Set contender worth a premium bid.

Provenance: *Houston Signature (Heritage, 12/2010)*, lot 3430; purchased from Bill Nagle (1/2011). PCGS# 538296 Base PCGS# 4660

**1873 Open 3, No Arrows Dime, MS63
Briefly Produced, Conditionally Rare
R.5 Fortin-106 Variety**



98279 1873 Open 3, No Arrows, F-106, R.5, MS63 NGC. Brilliant, frosty surfaces display strongly defined obverse motifs and fully struck devices on the reverse. The sole mark of note is a small diagonal tick below (UNITE)D. The obverse is heavily clashed and shows an accumulation of excess metal along the left rim.

Variety: Fortin-106. This is a late obverse die state with the E in DIME and part of the wreath visible to the right of Liberty's elbow.

Population Data (9/15): NGC counts four submissions in MS63 and five in MS64 finer. PCGS has seen six Select coins plus two in MS64 and one in MS65.

Heritage Commentary: The reported mintage for this briefly produced issue totals 60,000 coins. However, Gerry Fortin lists six die combinations and explains: "As a result of the general availability of Open 3 dimes, one must begin to question the historically stated mintage of 60,000. The existence of three obverse dies and two Obverse 1 die marriages with the progressive degradation of the second reverse marriage, suggest that the Redbook mintage of 60,000 pieces [is] understated. A more reasonable mintage estimate could be in the range [of] 150,000 to 250,000." Note that the issue is anything but available in this grade.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (2/2007). PCGS# 538302 Base PCGS# 4660

**1873 Arrows Dime, MS65
Lustrous, Near-Brilliant Surfaces**



98280 1873 Arrows, F-112, R.4, MS65 PCGS. Light apricot toning drapes the borders of this lustrous, mostly brilliant type coin. The otherwise crisp strike shows trivial softness on Liberty's head and the upper left wheat sheaf. Lovely eye appeal despite a few minor field marks.

Variety: Fortin-112. An interesting die scratch through the lower right portion of the wreath easily identifies the variety.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of 15 Gems at PCGS (two in MS65+). NGC shows 17 examples in the same grade, and both services report five finer submissions apiece.

Heritage Commentary: The left and right arrows flanking the date signify an insignificant weight increase intended to make the specifications conform to the metric system. Fortin-112 is rated R.4, scarcer than most other varieties for the date, and should command a premium between 50% and 100%.

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2007), lot 2584. PCGS# 538313 Base PCGS# 4665

1873-S Arrows Dime, MS66
One Finer at NGC



98281 1873-S Arrows, Small Block S, F-102, R.4, MS66 NGC. Both sides of this Premium Gem are exceptionally pleasing in all regards. Frosted mint luster blends with light lilac toning in the centers and ice-blue around the margins. The strike detail is strong throughout save for Liberty's head, which is always somewhat softly defined on the Small Block S coins.

Variety: Greer-102, Fortin-102. Medium Level Date, Small Block S. This mintmark variant is scarcer than the usually seen Small Thin S and is often found with problems. However, that is not the case with this piece.

Population Data (9/15): This is the sole Premium Gem example at NGC, which shows a single MS67 coin finer. The top-graded coins at PCGS are two MS65 representatives.

Heritage Commentary: The Act of 1873, also known by those opposing as the "Crime of '73," a bill specifically intended to satisfy influential mining interests in the West, had a number of provisions including the abolition of the standard silver dollar, the creation of a Trade dollar, and an increase in the silver weight of subsidiary coinage. The increase was minute and largely symbolic, and "the only effect ... was to give our subsidiary silver coins an awkward foreign [metric] weight," according to Neil Carothers. In 1873 and 1874, as was done in the mid-1850s, arrows were added to each side of the date to reflect the change — but here a weight increase rather than a decrease. The San Francisco Mint struck 455,000 Arrows dimes in 1873.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2011), lot 3399. PCGS# 538328 Base PCGS# 4667

1874 Arrows Dime, MS66
Nicely Preserved Type Representative



98282 1874 Arrows, F-112, R.3, MS66 PCGS. Concentric shades of aqua and steel-violet toning adorn surfaces that show prooflike tendencies on the obverse and more of a soft, frosty sheen on the reverse. Minor strike incompleteness occurs over the upper left portion of the wreath and the bowknot, but this Premium Gem remains a visually appealing Arrows type coin.

Variety: Fortin-112, attributed by the date and arrows position.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows 19 examples in MS66 with 11 coins finer. The populations in those levels at NGC are virtually identical.

Heritage Commentary: This Philadelphia dime issue is scarce as both a date and a two-year type in this exalted grade. The arrows denoted an otherwise-imperceptible weight increase of 0.01 gm and were removed in 1875.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 6/2004), lot 8049; purchased from Bill Nagle (6/2004). PCGS# 538343 Base PCGS# 4668

**1874-S Arrows Dime, MS66
One Finer at Both Services**



98283 1874-S Arrows, Small Thin S, F-102a, R.4, MS66 NGC. Each side of this Premium Gem features light blushes of amber-gold and olive toning blending with swirling mint frost. Flashes of brilliance emanate from underlying surfaces that appear essentially unabraded in-hand. A loupe reveals a few scattered flecks, but none of them pose any distraction. Well-struck with minor softness on Liberty's head, as usual.

Variety: Fortin-102a. The obverse die is rusted, and the shattered reverse die exhibits numerous cracks.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows two coins in MS66 with a single submission finer. The three finest examples at PCGS are in Premium Gem condition.

Heritage Commentary: This is the second and final year of the Arrows subtype, indicating a slight weight increase intended to facilitate exchange with foreign metric denominations. The San Francisco Mint struck 240,000 Arrows dimes in 1874, a relatively small total compared to the 455,000 pieces manufactured the previous year and more than 9 million coins in 1875.

Consignor Commentary: This coin has a well above-average strike given the heavily rusted obverse die and a reverse die that is just about ready to break up. The die cracks on the reverse are quite heavy and exactly as outlined on Gerry Fortin's website. The luster is good and the toning is light, providing good eye appeal.

Provenance: Purchased from Kenneth Goldberg (1/2003). PCGS# 538350 Base PCGS# 4670

**1875 Seated Dime, MS66
Marvelous Prooflike Surfaces**



98284 1875 MS66 NGC. CAC. F-120. Unquestionable field reflectivity and a thick layer of frost over the design motifs gives this Premium Gem a splendid prooflike appearance. Blended violet and cobalt-blue tones enhance the visual appeal. Liberty's head and the bowknot are softly impressed. A small tick on Liberty's knee will serve as a pedigree marker in future sales. Housed in an NGC no-line fatty holder.

Variety: Fortin-120. Obverse 17 has the date positioned furthest left among all head dies for the issue, facilitating the attribution process. Fortin also notes that this is a "prooflike dime variety."

Population Data (9/15): This is one of 43 Premium Gems at NGC (three in MS66 ★) with 10 submissions finer.

Heritage Commentary: Dime production eclipsed the 10 million-coin mark for the first time in 1875. High-end representatives such as this are available and popularly sought-after for type purposes, although finer examples are very rarely seen.

Provenance: Lake Michigan & Springdale Collections (*American Numismatic Rarities*, 6/2006), lot 1259. NGC ID# 23AC, PCGS# 4672

1875-CC Mintmark Above Bow Dime
Eye-Catching Gem



98285 1875-CC Mintmark Above Bow MS65 NGC. CAC. F-106a. Medium ocean-blue and salmon-pink toning covers this lustrous and sharply struck Gem. Only the ON in ONE exhibits any marks. Encapsulated in an early holder.

Variety: Fortin-106a. The date position, a die crack through OF AMERICA, and numerous die cracks encircling the wreath identify this variety.

Population Data (9/15): For both varieties NGC shows 34 MS65 submissions (one in MS65+) with 16 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1875-CC is the first readily accessible Carson City dime, and Above Bow examples are more available than their Below Bow counterparts. Nevertheless, one would likely have to invest a considerable amount of time to locate a better-looking example.

Provenance: *Dallas Signature* (Heritage, 7/2006), lot 624. NGC ID# 23AE, PCGS# 4673

1876-CC Dime, Uncirculated Details
Newly Discovered Fortin Variety



98286 1876-CC — Artificial Toning — NGC Details. Unc. Fortin-Unlisted. This Uncirculated CC coin displays ice-blue, violet, and orange patina on the obverse with lavender and golden-tan elements on the reverse. NGC notes that the toning is of questionable origin, but that fails to diminish the appeal of this sharply defined, lustrous example.

Variety: This new die marriage shows Fortin's Obverse 22 paired with Reverse Q. Obverse 22 is the only obverse die that appears to be an exact match for date placement, and there are no diagnostic markers indicating the obverse is from a different die. Reverse Q is an exact match by both mintmark placement and the presence of faint die lines in the field just to the right of the right-hand ribbon loop.

Heritage Commentary: With a large mintage totaling more than 8.2 million coins, it is unsurprising that so many die pairs have been identified to date. The search for new varieties is ongoing, however, and Fortin notes on his website: "Research of this date and mintmark needs to continue as I do expect additional die pairings to be located by knowledgeable dealers and collectors."

1876-CC Dime, Fortin-133, MS64
Repunched Mintmark Variety



98287 1876-CC MS64 PCGS. CAC. F-133. Vibrant luster glows beneath iridescent green, yellow, blue, and purple patina. This near-Gem is well-struck and minimally marked. Without a doubt, the outstanding eye appeal and originality of this Carson City coin make it ideal for type purposes.

Variety: Fortin-133, Type One Reverse. The easiest pickup point for this High R.6 variety is the repunched right C in the mintmark, showing extra metal that Fortin describes as hornlike in appearance. There is also doubling on the denomination.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 64 in this grade and 59 finer submissions.

Heritage Commentary: This variety, which commands a suggested premium ranging from 150% to 300%, was discovered by Harry Smith, who published his findings in the July 2010 issue of the *Gobrecht Journal*. The plate coin on SeatedDimeVarieties.com is graded AU50 by PCGS; this may be the finest example of the variety extant.

Provenance: Stack's (6/1999), lot 2031. NGC ID# 23AJ, PCGS# 4680

1877 Dime, Frosty MS66
Eye-Appealing Type Candidate



98288 1877 MS66 PCGS. CAC. F-107. Cobalt-blue in the peripheral areas blends with blushes of golden-orange patina encircling largely brilliant centers. Glistening mint frost and mostly strong detail on the devices make this Premium Gem all the more desirable, as does the absence of any individually noteworthy marks.

Variety: Fortin-107. This Fortin variety has a high, level date with circular die cracks around the obverse (passing through the date) and the reverse.

Population Data (9/15): The number of Premium Gems at PCGS totals 12 pieces (one in MS66+) with three finer submissions. NGC reveals 24 in MS66 and eight finer. This is among seven in this grade with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: With a mintage exceeding 7.3 million coins, the 1877 is available even in this lofty grade. Collectors on the lookout for an original, eye-appealing Seated dime type coin would do well to consider this piece.

Provenance: Purchased from Rare Coins of New Hampshire (8/2006). NGC ID# 23AL, PCGS# 4682

1878 Dime, Beautiful MS66
Unlisted in Fortin



98289 1878 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Fortin-Unlisted. A colorfully toned, CAC-approved Premium Gem. The obverse exhibits violet and blue-green patina, while the reverse is moderately lighter in color with electric blue, mint-green, purple, and orange hues. The only marks of note appear near the denomination. Frosty luster emanates from the surfaces, and the devices are strongly defined. Extremely attractive in-hand.

Variety: The reverse is an exact match to Fortin's proof reverse A, as indicated by the die lines in the lower-right portion of the wreath. This die was evidently retired from proof coinage and employed for circulation issues later. There are numerous light cracks throughout the wreath that confirm a later die state.

The date is a trifle further left than is seen on Fortin's proof obverse, and neither does it match any of the other listed obverse dies. Diagnostics of this obverse include a crack along the bottom of the date and another from the second S in STATES, through Liberty's head, to the rim above the cap. There are also a few tiny lumps on Liberty's left (facing) hand.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS and NGC report three submissions each in MS66. Finer examples include four at PCGS and two at NGC.

Heritage Commentary: Gerry Fortin describes the 1878 as one of the more challenging issues to locate of the so-called "common" dates in the latter part of the series. An underrated issue in this impressive grade and an interesting new variety for the specialist.

Provenance: Purchased from Bill Nagle (12/2003). NGC ID# 23AP, PCGS# 4685

1880 Dime, MS65
Just 36,000 Coins Minted



98290 1880 F-102a, R.4, MS65 NGC. CAC. When held at an angle, the surfaces of this Gem display multihued toning in shades of blue, purple, orange, and green. Boldly struck with small ticks that are well-concealed by the attractive toning. A horizontal linear abrasion on Liberty's cheek is the only blemish that merits mention. Housed in a pre-hologram holder.

Variety: Fortin-102a. The medium, slightly upward-sloping date shows repunching on the 8 and a die defect on the 0. Die rust occurs on the denomination.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows 24 examples in MS65 (one in MS65 ★) with 48 numerically finer submissions. PCGS reports similar totals.

Heritage Commentary: The Specie Payment Resumption Act, enacted in 1875 and effective in January 1879, made it profitable to return small silver coins to the Treasury, as the face value exceeded the intrinsic value of the metal. Coins from domestic hoards and foreign vaults vastly increased the supply of small-denomination coinage and reduced the need to mint new coins. The Philadelphia Mint only struck 36,000 dimes in 1880, making it one of the more popular dates in the series.

Provenance: Superior (9/2002), lot 580. PCGS# 538644 Base PCGS# 4688

1884-S Dime, Gorgeous MS66
Tied for Finest at PCGS



98291 1884-S MS66 PCGS. CAC. F-102. Frosty and brilliant in the centers with peripheral orange and magenta toning, the surfaces exhibit noticeable reflectivity and are devoid of all but the most trivial marks. A much scarcer date and one of the most impressive examples, technically and aesthetically, that we have offered.

Variety: Fortin-102, with a lapped obverse die and medium, level date. The Small S mintmark is centered below the bowknot.

Population Data (9/15): This Premium Gem is tied with one other submission for finest at PCGS, but it is the only one with a CAC approval sticker. NGC shows five Gems and one MS68 example finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1884-S is one of the scarcer issues among late-date Seated dimes in Mint State. Just over half a million coins were struck, and this issue becomes conditionally rare at the Choice grade level. In MS66, the 1884-S is a premier rarity, surpassed only by the Pittman-Stellar coin. That coin sold in Part III of the Gardner Collection (Heritage, 5/2015). This example should generate significant interest among Registry specialists looking to assemble the finest possible set.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2002), lot 5509. NGC ID# 23AY, PCGS# 4693

1887-S Dime, All-Brilliant Premium Gem
Sharp Definition, Prooflike Reverse



98292 1887-S MS66 NGC. F-108. A well-preserved and untoned Premium Gem, this coin features sharp detail throughout but particularly so on the wreath elements. The reverse is distinctly prooflike with frosty devices, while the obverse shows radiant cartwheel luster. A few small flecks appear on both sides, although the sole mentionable flaw is a minor mark below D(IME).

Variety: Fortin-108. This variety shows a high, level date with a Medium S mintmark left and high under the bow. Examples often come with prooflike surfaces.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of nine MS66 examples at NGC. PCGS shows eight submissions in the same grade. There are only four pieces finer: three at NGC and one at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: Dime output at the California mint increased by more than twenty times between 1886 and 1887, from 206,524 coins to over 4.4 million pieces. Falling silver prices in the early to mid-1880s led to a large influx of U.S. subsidiary coins from abroad, reducing the need for new pieces during that period. Production of dimes began to rise in 1887 as the Treasury stocks declined, hence the high 1887-S mintage.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 5/2007), lot 683; purchased from Harry Laibstain (7/2007). NGC ID# 23B6, PCGS# 4699

1887-S Dime, MS65
Rarely Encountered Finer



98293 1887-S MS65 NGC. CAC. F-109. Showing primarily dusky violet-gray patina, each side of this S-mint Gem offers occasional blue, golden-tan, and olive accents. The devices feature good detail with areas of incompleteness throughout. One expects minimal marks on a coin in MS65 condition, and this piece certainly delivers on that front.

Variety: Fortin-109. Identifying varieties for this issue is notoriously difficult, and this coin required some searching. The date position, softness on the base, and die cracks on the outer portion of the left wreath ultimately affirm the attribution.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows 12 submissions in MS66 or higher, while PCGS reports nine higher.

Heritage Commentary: By 1887, the large stockpiles of small-denomination silver coins that had kept mintages low through the early 1880s had been dispersed. San Francisco dime production rose to nearly 4.5 million examples, and the issue is considered plentiful in most grades. Gems such as this, however, are acknowledged condition rarities.

Provenance: *Lindsmith and LaRiviere Collections (Bowers and Merena, 11/1999), lot 1154. NGC ID# 23B6, PCGS# 4699*

1887-S Seated Dime, Original MS66
Top-Notch Example, Prehologram Holder



98294 1887-S MS66 NGC. CAC. F-113. Mottled crimson, olive, and violet patina dominates the surfaces with intermittent areas of brilliance on each side. Vibrant luster radiates through the toning, and the devices are strongly impressed. A wonderfully original Premium Gem. Housed in a prehologram holder.

Variety: Fortin-113, attributed by the date and mintmark positions.

Population Data (9/15): This MS66 representative is tied with eight others at NGC, and three are finer at that service. PCGS shows eight Premium Gems and one MS67 finer.

Heritage Commentary: A high mintage of 4.4 million coins and an impressive survival rate make the 1887-S an excellent San Francisco type. Readily obtainable through Choice condition, the date becomes conditionally rare at the Gem grade level with an estimated 35 pieces in MS65 or higher. Premium Gems are very rare, and with only four examples finer than the coin offered here. Both patience and significant resources will be required to procure a finer representative.

Provenance: *Baltimore Auction (Bowers and Merena, 6/2007), lot 669. NGC ID# 23B6, PCGS# 4699*

1888 Dime, MS66
Frosty and Lightly Toned



98295 1888 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Frosty, mostly brilliant surfaces with blushes of light amber-gold toning provide excellent eye appeal and unequivocally merit the green CAC approval sticker for quality within the grade. The reverse details are fully defined, while a touch of softness is noted on Liberty's head. The absence of singularly distracting marks is expected given the numeric grade.

Variety: The obverse appears similar to Fortin's Obverse 13. However, this coin lacks the doubling mentioned by Fortin, and the date appears to be positioned higher. The reverse is devoid of clash marks and shows a die crack below the bowknot through the right wreath leaves. This may be either an early, unclashed die state of Fortin-113 or an unlisted variety.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS notes 28 examples in MS66 (three in MS66+) with two finer. The NGC data are nearly identical, save that only a lone MS67 is finer.

Heritage Commentary: This late-date Seated dime has an impressive production total nearing 5.5 million coins. The issue is rare in Premium Gem, and given the recent sales of the two top-graded PCGS coins, this may be one of the finest examples available for some time.

Provenance: *Purchased directly from Heritage (2/2002).* NGC ID# 23B7, PCGS# 4700

1888-S Dime, Sharply Struck MS66
Important Condition Rarity, None Graded Finer



98296 1888-S F-106, R.3, MS66 NGC. CAC. Both sides are peripherally toned in dappled orange-russet and cobalt-blue colors, and each is richly frosted. The design elements exhibit an above-average strike. Liberty's head is sharply defined, a significant attribute, as the issue normally is found weakly struck there. There are no grade-limiting abrasions.

Variety: Fortin-106, R.3, attributed by a High Date that has a slight downward slope, and a centered Medium S mintmark with a slight left tilt.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports four Premium Gems and none finer while PCGS shows two pieces in MS66 and none finer. This piece and only one other in this grade have the CAC green approval stickers.

Heritage Commentary: The 1888-S dime comes from a mintage of 1.7 million pieces. It is scarce in Extremely Fine and About Uncirculated and very challenging in Mint State. It is an important condition rarity in Premium Gem

Provenance: *Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 10/2001), lot 6018.* PCGS# 538787 Base PCGS# 4701

1889 Dime, Richly Toned MS66
An Above-Average Strike



98297 1889 MS66 NGC. CAC. F-126. Rich cobalt-blue color drifts toward the borders, framing champagne and lilac patination in the centers. The surfaces are mostly satiny, although some hints of cartwheel frost are evident as the coin rotates beneath a light. The design features are well-impressed, including Liberty's head and the bowknot, elements that are often weak. Both sides show pleasing eye appeal.

Variety: Fortin-126, R.4. The tops of a 1 and 8 appear to be misplaced within the shield. Clashed above the lower serif of the E in ONE, and opposite on the field near Liberty's raised elbow. The clashing is not described at the Fortin website.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows 25 submissions in MS66 and seven finer, while PCGS reports 30 in MS66 (three in MS66+) and six finer. Only eight in this grade have the green CAC bean.

Heritage Commentary: The 1889, having a production of 7.4 million pieces, can be located through the Gem level with relatively little difficulty. Premium Gems are more elusive.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 10/2001), lot 6020. NGC ID# 23B9, PCGS# 4702

1889-S Dime, Well-Struck MS65
Seldom Seen Finer



98298 1889-S F-101, R.3, MS65 PCGS. CAC. Bluish-green and golden-orange patination clings to the obverse border, framing the grayish center. More uniformly distributed bluish-green and grayish-tan covers the reverse. The design elements are well-defined, including Liberty's head, which is typically flat on this issue.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.3, attributed by the slight downward slope in the date, open 9, and Medium S mintmark.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports six pieces in MS65 and two finer, while NGC has seen eight specimens in Gem and three finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1889-S dime saw a mintage under 1 million pieces. Fortin writes of this issue: "A tough date in the lower circulated grades that becomes scarce in EF-AU. Mint State examples are infrequently seen."

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor. PCGS# 538823 Base PCGS# 4703

1889-S Dime, A Better-Struck MS65
Condition Rarity



98299 1889-S F-106, R.3, MS65 PCGS. CAC. Reddish-gold, lavender, and blue toning covers the lustrous surfaces of this attractive Gem. An above-average strike characterizes the design elements, including Liberty's hair and facial features, areas that are often weakly impressed on this issue.

Variety: Fortin-106, R.3. The medium date is level, the shield points left of the 1, the pendant is over the left side of the second 8, the 9 is nearly closed, and the Small S mintmark is positioned left and high.

Population Data (9/15): Six pieces in MS65 and two finer are reported by PCGS; eight Gems have been seen by NGC and three finer. Of the 14 submissions in MS65, six have the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: Fortin assigns the following rarity ratings to the 1889-S dime: Good to Very Good, R.3; Fine to Very Fine, High R.3; Extremely Fine to About Uncirculated, R.4; MS High R.5. The current Gem offering presents the Seated dime specialist with an infrequent opportunity to acquire this important condition rarity.

Provenance: *New York Signature (Heritage, 3/2012), lot 3258. PCGS# 538829 Base PCGS# 4703*

1890 Dime, Resplendently Toned MS66
A High-Mintage Issue



98300 1890 MS66 NGC. CAC. F-120. Resplendent cobalt-blue peripheral toning frames pinkish iridescence in the obverse center. The reverse is more uniform in color with a medium-intensity golden-gray sheen. The design elements are well-struck, though the hair atop Liberty's head is a tad soft. The CAC sticker affirms the coin's above-average eye appeal.

Variety: Fortin-120, R.2, attributed to the many die cracks across the reverse periphery. Multiply clashed near the E in DIME and opposite on the field near Liberty's raised elbow. The Fortin website omits any mention of clash marks.

Population Data (9/15): Only nine submissions are finer at NGC, along with five at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: The penultimate P-mint issue in this long-lived series, the 1890 is a high-mintage (9.9 million pieces) date that is obtainable with relatively little difficulty in the lower Mint State grades. Premium Gems such as this are scarce, however, and higher-grade pieces rare.

Provenance: *Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 10/2001), lot 6021. NGC ID# 23BB, PCGS# 4704*

1890-S Dime, Patinated MS65
Challenging in Mint State



98301 1890-S Large S, Doubled Die Obverse, F-102, R.5, MS65 NGC. CAC. The lustrous surfaces of this S-mint Gem display variegated electric-blue and soft crimson toning. The design elements are well-struck save for the typical weakness on Liberty's head. Neither side reveals mentionable contact marks.

Variety: Fortin-102, R.5. The obverse is lightly die doubled on the shield and drapery. The reverse is lapped and exhibits a Medium S mintmark. A die crack from a leaf tip to the rim at 9 o'clock merits inclusion on the Fortin website.

Population Date (9/15): NGC reports 16 in MS65 and eight finer, while PCGS shows 14 in MS65 and one finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1890-S dime, with a production exceeding 1.4 million pieces, is a fairly available date in the lower circulated grades but is challenging in the higher Mint State levels.

Provenance: *Bowers and Merena (11/2002)*, lot 1248. PCGS# 538860 Base PCGS# 4705

1890-S Dime, MS66
None Certified Finer



98302 1890-S Large S, F-116, R.3, MS66 NGC. A flashy, moderately prooflike Premium Gem, this coin is attractively toned in mottled orange and apple-green colors. Each side is carefully preserved with above-average strike definition on the devices.

Variety: Fortin-116. The only diagnostic markers are the placement of the medium, downward-sloping date and the Medium S mintmark.

Population Data (9/15): Eight Premium Gems (one in MS66 ★) are tied atop the NGC *Census*, while one MS66 is the sole finest example at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: The *Guide Book* lists two mintmark varieties for the 1890-S: Large S and Small S. Gerry Fortin's web book describes the Large S as a Medium S, but both references agree the Small S mintmark variety is considerably scarcer. The 1890-S is one of the more elusive late-date issues in upper Uncirculated grades, and this piece is among the finest surviving representatives.

Provenance: *Dallas Signature (Heritage, 12/2005)*, lot 456. PCGS# 538875 Base PCGS# 4705

1891 Dime, Conditionally Rare MS66 ★
Ideal Last-Year Example



98303 1891 MS66 ★ NGC. CAC. F-108. A medley of soft aqua-green, gold-tan, and lilac patina cascades over the lustrous surfaces of this gorgeous Premium Gem. The design features are well-struck, including Liberty's head and the bowknot, elements that are often weak on this issue. This piece exudes outstanding eye appeal and is well-deserving of both the coveted Star and CAC designations.

Variety: Fortin-108, R.4, the "Two Tailed 9" variety with repunching apparent within the lower loop of the 9. Strongly double-clashed, although not described as such at the Fortin website.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 63 submissions in MS66, four having the Star accolade; 22 are finer at that service.

Heritage Commentary: This last year of Seated Liberty dime production saw a hefty mintage exceeding 15 million pieces. Even Mint State coins can be located with relatively little trouble. The current Premium Gem with Star, however, can only be considered conditionally rare. Combined with the CAC endorsement, this coin is an ideal choice for the Seated dime specialist.

Provenance: Purchased from Rare Coins of New Hampshire (11/2006). NGC ID# 23BD, PCGS# 4706

1891-O Seated Dime, Toned MS65
A Popular New Orleans Issue



98304 1891-O MS65 NGC. F-130. Occasional splashes of cobalt-blue accent the dominant soft russet patination on this Gem O-mint offering. The design elements are well-struck, though the hair atop Liberty's head is somewhat soft. An unobtrusive linear mark on the left (facing) knee may help to identify the coin, as might another in the upper-reverse field, below where the upper leaves cross.

Variety: Fortin-130, R.4. The mintmark is tilted right. Clashed on the field near Liberty's lower hand and near the E in ONE. The upper reverse border shows several delicate die cracks. The clashes and cracks are not mentioned at the Fortin website.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 26 coins graded Gem and 10 finer; PCGS shows 20 in MS65 and 14 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1891-O dime saw a mintage of 4.5 million pieces and is considered a common date, although it is the most popular New Orleans issue in the entire Seated dime series. Mint State coins can be located through MS64 with moderate searching, but finer examples are much more challenging.

Provenance: Bowers and Merena (11/1999), lot 1158. NGC ID# 23BE, PCGS# 4707

PROOF SEATED DIMES

1839 No Drapery Dime, PR62
An Important Proof Rarity
The Sole CAC-Endorsed Example



98305 1839 No Drapery, F-105, R.8, PR62 PCGS. CAC. Pastel butter-gold, rose-red, and lime-green toning endows this nicely mirrored early proof dime. The design elements are sharply struck, displaying razor-sharp detail on Liberty's hair and sandal, the star centers, and the veins in the leaves on the wreath. A few trivial marks do not detract and hairlines are minimal for the grade. This piece exhibits great eye appeal for a PR62, appropriately recognized by CAC. Housed in a first generation holder.

Variety: Fortin notes that 1839 proofs were struck with two separate die pairs. The present example is Fortin-105, R.8, showing a high, level date. Star 8 displays bold repunching. Fortin states on his webpage: "A common date in all grades for business strikes however proofs are limited to 7 known."

Population Data (9/15): The PCGS website estimates that four or five 1839 proof dimes are known. In addition to the current PR62 example, PCGS has certified a PR64. NGC has seen a PR62, PR65, and PR66. The present coin is the sole 1839 proof dime to be endorsed by CAC.

Heritage Commentary: While the number of 1839 proof dimes made is unknown, it was undoubtedly small, as the population reports indicate. Our records show only 14 auction appearances since 1976. The present offering is an important opportunity for the advanced Seated dime specialist to acquire this classic rarity. Who knows when an 1839 proof dime will cross the auction block again!

Provenance: Kamal Ahwash; Jascha Heifetz Collection (Superior, 10/1989), lot 3546; Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 5/2008), lot 102. PCGS# 538979 Base PCGS# 4722

1843 Dime, Ex: Pittman, PR65
Eight to 12 Proofs Known
One Graded Finer



98306 1843 F-103, R.7, PR65 PCGS. This delightful Gem proof is spectacularly toned in shades of champagne-gold, magenta, and cobalt-blue. The fields appear deeply reflective beneath the rich patina and are free of any mentionable distractions. The design elements exhibit predictably razor-sharp definition throughout, and the overall eye appeal is top-notch.

Variety: Fortin-103. Proofs have the date positioned far left with the pendant on Liberty's gown smaller than those found on the various business-strike varieties.

Population Data (9/15): This is the only PR65 submission at PCGS, which has seen one PR66 finer. Five Gem proof grading events are tied for finest at NGC.

Heritage Commentary: An unknown number of proof Seated Liberty dimes were produced in 1843, but experts agree no more than eight to 12 examples survive in all grades. This impressive specimen is one of the finest survivors, exceeded in technical quality by only one piece at both leading services combined.

David Akers described this coin in the Pittman catalog as, "This is what a Proof Liberty Seated Dime of this decade is supposed to look like." The Pittman and Gardner pedigrees match this coin's impeccable technical and aesthetic credentials.

Provenance: 1946 ANA Sale (Numismatic Gallery, 8/1946), lot 266 to John Jay Pittman for \$17; Pittman Collection (Akers, 10/1997), lot 595; Long Beach Connoisseur Collection / Rarities Sale (Bowers and Merena, 8/1999), lot 105. PCGS# 538984 Base PCGS# 4730

1845 Dime, Toned PR65
An Extremely Rare Issue



98307 1845 F-109, High R.7, PR65 NGC. Deep bluish-purple and slate-gray toning resides in the fields of this Gem proof, highlighting the light grayish-tan devices and producing mild contrast, especially on the obverse. The design elements are sharply impressed. Neither side reveals mentionable marks.

Variety: Fortin-109, High R.7. The date is high and downward-sloping, showing a repunched 845. All 1845 proof dimes are apparently struck from the same die pair.

Population Data (9/15): The PCGS website estimates five to seven known 1845 proof dimes surviving. NGC reports five examples: a PR61, one each of PR65 (the present coin), PR66, and PR67, and a PR65 Cameo. PCGS has seen two specimens: a PR61 and a PR65.

Heritage Commentary: While the 1845 business-strike dime, sporting a mintage exceeding 7.5 million pieces, is common in all grades except Mint State where it becomes scarce, its proof counterpart is extremely rare. Our Auction Archives show 22 appearances through the major auction firms since the early 1990s, several of which are known to have appeared more than once.

Provenance: *New England* (7/1978), lot 466; *Kamal Ahwash* (9/1978); *Lovejoy Collection* (Stack's, 10/1990), lot 230; *Phil Kaufman*; *Bowers and Merena* (1/1999), lot 1084; *Bowers and Merena* (8/1999), lot 106. PCGS# 538986 Base PCGS# 4732

1856 Dime, Patinated PR64
Difficult in Proof Format



98308 1856 Small Date PR64 NGC. CAC. F-101. Intermingled reddish-gold, purple, electric-blue, and orange toning gravitates to the borders of this near-Gem proof, more extensive and deeper on the reverse. The central areas are a soft bluish-green, displaying a slightly deeper hue on the reverse. All of the design elements are sharply struck. A few minor handling marks likely preclude Gem classification.

Variety: Breen-3295, Fortin-101, High R.6. Doubled obverse die with a medium, level date, the only known proof dies. The obverse die is boldly doubled north on the shield and within the lower gown folds. A die defect shows on Liberty's left (facing) breast, and a die line is visible from the rim to the top right of the R in AMERICA.

Population Data (9/15): The PCGS website estimates the known number of 1856 proof dimes at 30 to 40 pieces. NGC reports six submissions in PR64 and six examples finer. PCGS shows seven near-Gems and five finer. Seven in this grade have the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: The number of 1856 proof dimes minted is unknown. All known proofs display a Small Date. Fortin writes: "A difficult date to locate in proof condition."

Provenance: *Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins* (8/1998). NGC ID# 23CA, PCGS# 4745

1856 Small Date Dime, PR65
One of Perhaps 35 Surviving Proofs



98309 1856 Small Date PR65 NGC. F-101. Cobalt-blue, rose, violet, and peach-orange coloration complements deeply mirrored fields, concealing most of the small, insignificant contact marks that prevent an even higher numeric grade. As one would expect, this Gem proof is fully struck with broad, square rims and wonderful eye appeal.

Variety: Fortin-101. All proofs have a Small Date with the obverse strongly doubled north. The reverse shows a diagnostic die line from the rim to the R in AMERICA.

Population Data (9/15): There are four other PR65 coins at NGC with two finer submissions. PCGS reports two examples in PR65 and three finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1856 circulation strikes have numerous varieties with dramatic die doubling and repunched or misplaced dates. The proofs, however, have the strongest doubling of any of the 23 Small Date varieties listed by Fortin, who rates the issue as an R.6+. The 1856 proof dime had a limited mintage of only 50 pieces, and approximately 35 representatives survive, according to CoinFacts and Bowers (as cited by Breen in his 1989 *Proof Encyclopedia*).

Provenance: Purchased from Jim O'Donnell (7/2004). NGC ID# 23CA, PCGS# 4745

1856 Small Date Dime, Eye-Appealing PR66
An Infrequently Seen Proof



98310 1856 Small Date PR66 NGC. F-101. Reddish-gold patination that clings to the margins of this gorgeous Premium Gem proof embraces brilliant centers. The design elements exhibit the razor-sharp definition one would expect of a proof strike. Impeccable preservation characterizes both sides. This piece exhibits pleasing overall eye appeal.

Variety: Breen-3295, Fortin-101, High R.6. Proof Dies, Doubled Obverse Die, Medium Level Date. The obverse die exhibits bold doubling to the north on the shield and within the lower gown folds. A die defect is seen on the right side of Liberty's left (facing) breast, and a die line travels from the rim to the top right of the R in AMERICA.

Population Data (9/15): According to the PCGS website, 30 to 40 examples of the 1856 proof dime are known. NGC reports two submissions in PR66 and none finer. PCGS has seen two PR66 pieces and one finer.

Heritage Commentary: Fortin intimates that the 1856 dime in proof format is a difficult coin to acquire. The Heritage Archives substantiate this, showing only 43 appearances through the major auction houses over the past 20 or so years. Moreover, it is known that some of these represent more than one appearance. The present PR66 offering with its gorgeous eye appeal is therefore an ideal choice for the Seated dime specialist. It may be many years before an 1856 proof dime in this level of preservation crosses the auction block again.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (12/2005). NGC ID# 23CA, PCGS# 4745

1857 Dime, Toned PR66
An Extremely Rare Proof



98311 1857 PR66 NGC. CAC. F-101. Cobalt-blue, russet, and purple mottled toning covers both sides of this Premium Gem proof Seated dime. Boldly struck design detail and carefully preserved surfaces further enhance the coin's highly pleasing eye appeal.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.6. Medium date with a slight downward slope. A die line extends from the rim to the upper-right top of the R in AMERICA.

Population Data (9/15): The PCGS website estimates that 30 to 50 proof dimes of 1857 are known from an unknown original mintage. NGC has graded three Premium Gems and three pieces finer, while PCGS has seen four Premium Gems and one finer. Four in this grade bear the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: Our records indicate that 1857 proof dimes have made approximately 100 appearances through the major auction houses over the past 20 or so years, including multiple appearances of some pieces. The 1857 proof dimes in aggregate appear a bit less often than the 1856 proof issue, with which they share a common reverse die.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (*Heritage*, 10/2001), lot 6036. NGC ID# 23CB, PCGS# 4746

1858 Dime, Uniformly Toned PR65
With CAC Approval



98312 1858 F-101, R.5, PR65 NGC. CAC. Russet patination imbued with traces of gold-orange and greenish-blue embraces both sides of this Gem proof. The design features are sharply struck throughout, and no significant flaws are evident.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.5. Medium date with a downward slope, the only 1858 proof dime variety identified by Fortin. A die scratch from the upper-right corner of the left part of M in AMERICA runs to the rim.

Population Data (9/15): The PCGS website estimates 50 to 70 known 1858 proof dimes. NGC reports 17 in PR65 and 11 finer. PCGS reports eight and five in those same levels. This is one of five in this grade with the green CAC approval, but six are finer.

Heritage Commentary: The number of 1858 proof dimes produced is unknown. Walter Breen's *Proof Encyclopedia* suggests a mintage of 80 pieces, but the number may have been higher. Recent research by John Dannreuther suggests that a large mintage of free (no proofing charge) proof sets in 1858 and 1859 was the result of speculation by early coin dealers and collectors, an effect dampened when the Mint began imposing proofing charges on gold and silver proof sets beginning in 1860.

Provenance: RARCOA / David Akers (7/1996), lot 200. PCGS# 538998 Base PCGS# 4747

1858 Dime, Toned PR65
Modest Contrast



98313 1858 F-101, R.5, PR65 PCGS. CAC. Whispers of cobalt-blue and gold-orange toning embrace this Gem proof, which is fully struck throughout. A well-preserved example. Modest field-motif contrast is evident. Housed in a prior generation holder.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.5. The medium date slopes downward. There is a die scratch from the upper-left diagonal of M in AMERICA to the rim. Fortin writes: "All 1858 proof examples originate from a single die pair."

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports eight in PR65 and five finer. NGC reports 17 in PR65 and 11 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The no-charge coinage of proof sets in 1858 and 1859 made them subject to speculation; the true number made (and the numbers possibly melted later) may never be known. The issue survives up to a handful of PR67 pieces. Gene Gardner owned four examples of this proof date, the finest a PR67 ★ NGC coin that brought \$10,575 as lot 98271 in our Gardner Part III Signature (Heritage, 5/2015).

Provenance: *Stack's* (3/1998), lot 371. PCGS# 538998 Base PCGS# 4747

1858 Dime, PR66
Deep Blue and Purple Tones



98314 1858 F-101, R.5, PR66 NGC. Intense cobalt-blue and violet toning provides this Premium Gem proof outstanding visual appeal heightened by accents of mint-green and orange. Few imperfections are visible beneath the toning without magnification.

Variety: Fortin-101 has a medium, downward-sloping date with the upright and lower loop of the 5 connected by a small die defect. A die line from the rim to the M in AMERICA is additional confirmation of this coin's proof status.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports eight submitted in PR66 and three finer. The finest at PCGS are five in PR66.

Heritage Commentary: Estimated mintages for the 1858 vary by source. Breen believed between 60 to 75 proofs were struck, CoinFacts pegs the mintage at around 100 pieces, and the *Guide Book* reports a production total of 300+ examples. Breen's estimate is almost certainly low, and the *Guide Book's* approximation seem high based on the number of certified examples at NGC and PCGS. A reasonable figure might be between 125 to 175 proofs, and this Premium Gem must be one of the most eye-appealing examples extant.

Provenance: *Purchased from Rare Coin Wholesalers* (12/2005). PCGS# 538998 Base PCGS# 4747

1859 Dime, Elusive PR67 Cameo



98315 1859 PR67 Cameo NGC. F-101. A medley of reddish-gold, maroon, and cobalt-blue patination gravitates to the peripheries of this Superb Gem Cameo proof, framing bluish-green central areas. Liberty's motif is frosted and mostly silver-white with occasional splashes of reddish-gold at the bottom. Deeply mirrored fields yield pronounced contrast with the sharply struck design elements. Both sides show impeccably preserved surfaces.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.4. Medium, upward-sloping date.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 11 Superb Gem Cameos (three with the Star designation) and none finer. while PCGS shows three such examples and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: Despite being offered by the Mint for face value, many of the 800 proof 1859 dimes remained unsold at the end of the year and were apparently melted. Nevertheless, the supply appears sufficient to meet current collector demand, though better-grade Cameos such as the present offering are elusive.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (12/2005). NGC ID# 23CD, PCGS# 84748

1859 Dime, Patinated PR67
Sole Finest at PCGS



98316 1859 F-101, R.4, PR67 PCGS. CAC. Soft russet and bluish-green patina runs over the obverse of this Superb Gem proof, ceding to uniform bluish-green on the reverse. The design elements are sharply struck and both sides are impeccably preserved. These attributes add up to magnificent eye appeal.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.4. Medium date with a slight upward slope.

Population Data (9/15): This piece is the sole finest at PCGS. NGC shows six PR67 (one PR67 ★) and one PR68 finer. This is one of two in this grade with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: This year saw a production of 800 proof dimes. While these were sold at face value (per John Dannreuther), many were apparently melted as unsold at year's end or entered circulation. The current offering possesses great technical quality and aesthetic appeal and is highly deserving of a generous bid.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (2/2008). PCGS# 538999 Base PCGS# 4748

1859 Dime, Appealing PR65



98317 1859 F-102, R.5, PR65 NGC. CAC. Bluish-green patination dominates the obverse of this Gem proof, accented with splashes of russet. A melange of golden-tan, purple, russet, and bluish-green cascades over the reverse. The design elements are sharply struck throughout. The pleasing eye appeal is appropriately recognized by CAC.

Variety: Fortin-102, R.5, showing a medium level date with slight doubling of the O in ONE.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 33 grading events in PR65 and 35 finer. PCGS shows 27 in PR65 and 19 finer. Encapsulated in a prior generation holder.

Heritage Commentary: The number of proof dimes struck in 1859 amounted to 800 pieces. Many were melted as unsold or spent. Enough survive to the present day, however, to meet collector demand, especially through near-Gem. This is significant because the relatively low mintage of the circulation strikes, 429,000 pieces, makes locating higher-graded Mint State examples difficult.

Provenance: *Stack's* (3/1998), lot 373. PCGS# 539006 Base PCGS# 4748

1860 Dime, Toned PR64 Cameo
Ex: Eliasberg



98318 1860 PR64 Cameo PCGS. CAC. F-101. Ex: Eliasberg. The frosty devices appear to float over the mirrored, watery fields of this near-Gem Cameo proof, producing stunning contrast. Medium-intensity russet patination clings to the obverse periphery, framing greenish-blue fields in the central area. Most of Liberty's motif is whitish-gray, enhancing the cameo contrast. The reverse exhibits slightly deeper hues throughout, including variegated reddish-tan and grayish-white on the wreath. ONE DIME is primarily white in color. The design elements are sharply detailed, befitting a proof strike. A small, horizontal linear mark midway between the rim and the middle of the left ribbon helps pedigree the coin.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.3. High date with a downward slope. Horizontal die scratches show on the vertical stripes below RTY, and the left foot of the 1 in the date is thicker than the right foot. All known 1860 proof dimes were struck from the Type One obverse hub, which exhibits five vertical lines in the shield.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows nine PR64 (one PR64+) Cameo submissions, and 19 finer. NGC has seen nine in PR64 Cameo and 22 finer.

Heritage Commentary: About one-half of the 1,000-piece 1860 proof dime production is thought to have been melted. Certified survivors range from PR58 to PR68.

Provenance: Dr. William Dickinson (*Chapman Brothers*, 3/1894), lot 475; J.M. Clapp; *Clapp Estate*; *Clapp Estate*, 1942, to Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; *Eliasberg Collection* (*Bowers and Merena*, 5/1996), lot 1169. NGC ID# 23CJ, PCGS# 84753

1860 Dime, Gorgeous PR67 Cameo



98319 1860 PR67 Cameo NGC. CAC. F-101. Whispers of magenta, orange, and electric-blue gravitate to the margins of this gorgeous Superb Gem Cameo proof, framing the central areas consisting of sky-blue patina deeper on the reverse. The frosty devices display more of a silver-white color and are strongly highlighted by the mirrored fields. Sharp definition appears on the design elements, further enhancing the outstanding eye appeal. No mentionable marks or hairlines disturb.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.3. Medium date with a downward slope. Horizontal die scratches on the shield adjacent to the banner run from line 6 to under RTY, the left base of the 1 digit is thick and the right base thin, and die doubling occurs on the inner part of the upper-right serif of E in DIME. The Type One shield on the 1860 proof dime displays five lines above the scroll and Liberty's index finger on the outside of the shield.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports six in PR67 Cameo and four coins finer. PCGS also shows six in PR67 (two PR67+) Cameo and one finer. This piece is among four in this grade with the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: In an upcoming publication on U.S. proof coinage, John Dannreuther cites Mint records indicating that the large number of proofs struck in 1860 and 1861 for 1,000 sets was in anticipation of a continued high demand as seen for the sale of 1858 and 1859 proofs, which were sold at face value. The Mint began to charge a premium for proofs to take effect in 1860, but that apparently resulted in most 1860 and 1861 proofs remaining unsold and consequently melted. The number of proofs made in 1862 was reduced significantly.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (12/2005). NGC ID# 23CJ, PCGS# 84753

1861 Dime, Delightfully Toned PR66 A Scarce Issue



98320 1861 Type Two, F-101, R.4, PR66 NGC. This stunning Premium Gem proof exhibits deeply mirrored fields around modestly frosted devices. The field-motif contrast, however, is somewhat subdued by delightful cobalt-blue, apple-green, and magenta toning, probably of sufficient depth to preclude a Cameo designation. The design elements are sharply struck, adding to the coin's strong eye appeal. Both sides have been well-cared for.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.4. Medium date with a slight downward slope. The 1861 proof dime is from the Type Two obverse hub, distinguished by six vertical lines in the stripes of the shield above the banner. Liberty's index finger points straight down along the left edge of the shield on this obverse.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 10 coins in PR66 and one finer. PCGS shows four Premium Gems and one PR67 ★ finer.

Heritage Commentary: In an upcoming reference on U.S. proof coins, John Dannreuther writes that in anticipation of the continued high demand for proof coinage such as had occurred in 1858 and 1859 (when proofs were sold at face value) the Mint produced 1,000 proof sets in 1860 and 1861 to be sold at a premium. The demand was overestimated, and as Breen states: "... over 600 were melted, or spent as unsold." This helps to explain the relatively small number of 1861 proof dimes in the population reports and renders them highly desirable among Seated dime specialists, especially in Gem and finer grades.

Provenance: Los Angeles Signature (Heritage, 8/2009), lot 490; Houston Signature (Heritage, 12/2009), lot 414. PCGS# 539008 Base PCGS# 4754

1861 Dime, Toned PR66



98321 1861 Type Two, F-101, R.4, PR66 NGC. Russet and golden-tan patination imbued with splashes of cobalt-blue and deep grayish-blue runs over both sides of this Premium Gem proof. A solid strike leaves strong definition on the design features. No significant marks are visible.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.4. Medium date showing a slight downward slope. Two obverse hubs were used for 1861 dimes. The Type Two obverse hub, used for proof strikings, is identified by six vertical lines above the shield banner and Liberty's index finger pointing down along the edge of the shield.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows 10 PR66 and one finer. PCGS reports four PR66 and also one finer.

Heritage Commentary: Gerry Fortin writes that in 1861 Mint Engraver James B. Longacre updated the obverse hub to improve strike quality. The old Type One hub of 1861 has five vertical lines in the upper part of the shield above the banner. Liberty's index finger also fell on the outside of the left shield edge. One thousand proof 1861 dimes were produced for sets, most going unsold.

Provenance: *Bowers and Merena (8/1998), lot 111.* PCGS# 539008 Base PCGS# 4754

1863 Dime, PR66 Cameo Spectacular Patina, Bold Contrast



98322 1863 PR66 Cameo PCGS. F-101. Colorful rainbow hues frame nearly brilliant centers on the obverse, while the reverse is dramatically toned in rings of cobalt-blue, magenta, and pumpkin-gold. A thick layer of frost coats the devices, generating pronounced contrast throughout, but particularly so on the obverse. Deep, watery fields show no mentionable contact marks upon close inspection, and a few areas of irregular patina do not affect the appeal.

Variety: Fortin-101. Medium date, downward slope. Diagnostic die defects occur on O(NE) (D)IM(E).

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports five submitted in PR66 Cameo (one PR66+ Cameo), while NGC shows three in the same grade. Finer submissions include one at PCGS and three at NGC.

Heritage Commentary: The 1863 issue had a low total mintage. The Philadelphia Mint restricted dime production to just 14,000 circulation strikes and 460 proof dimes. Both formats are very rare in this high grade, but comparable proofs are somewhat more available and often replace their business-strike counterparts in high-end date sets.

Provenance: *Alex Cooper Auctioneers (1/2012), lot 251.* NGC ID# 23BS, PCGS# 84756

1863 Dime, Sharply Defined PR66
A Low-Mintage Issue



98323 1863 F-101, R.4, PR66 NGC. CAC. The russet and reddish-gold surfaces of this Premium Gem proof are blushed with emerald-green, and all design features exhibit sharp definition. Neither side reveals mentionable marks or hairlines.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.4. Medium date showing a slight downward slope. Only one die pair was used for both proof and circulation strikes. Minor die defects are visible on the O in ONE and the IM in DIME.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows 24 submissions in PR66 and eight finer. PCGS reports 13 PR66 (one PR66+) and none finer. This piece is one of six in this grade with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1863 had the lowest production of proof Legend Obverse dimes, at 460 pieces. Brian Greer writes that “proofs were saved and are usually available for a price.” But the meager 14,000 business strikes produced makes them quite rare, placing date pressure on the proofs.

Provenance: *Bowers and Merena (11/1998), lot 1396.* PCGS# 539011 Base PCGS# 4756

1864 Dime, Eye-Appealing PR66
Sole Finest With CAC Endorsement



98324 1864 PR66 NGC. CAC. F-102. This Premium Gem proof displays a medley of soft gold-beige and deep bluish-gray patina accented with splashes of bluish-green. The design elements are crisply defined, befitting a proof strike. Close inspection reveals no mentionable flaws. Both sides display pleasing eye appeal.

Variety: Fortin identifies two proof varieties for the 1864 dime. The present coin is Fortin-102, R.5, displaying a medium level date. The 1 and the 8 are each centered over a dentil, the 6 is centered slightly to the right of a dentil, and the upright of the 4 is slightly left of a dentil. A die defect appears on the lower part of the left diagonal of M in DIME.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows nine submitted in PR66 and five finer. PCGS reports two in PR66 and two finer. This PR66 is the sole finest with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: This Civil War-era dime had a mintage of only 470 pieces. Fortin contends that: “High grade business strikes are in higher demand than proofs.” Nevertheless, one might surmise that the small production of 11,000 business strikes exerts pressure on the proofs from date collectors.

Provenance: *Bowers and Merena (8/1996), lot 81.* NGC ID# 23CM, PCGS# 4757

1865 Dime, Toned PR63 Cameo



98325 1865 PR63 Cameo PCGS. CAC. F-102. Medium-intensity toning consisting of gold-orange, purple, and electric-blue does not diminish the pronounced field-motif contrast on this Select Cameo proof. The sharply impressed figure of Liberty and wreath motifs further enhances the contrast. A few insignificant handling marks prevent near-Gem classification.

Variety: Fortin-102, R.4. High date with a slight upward slope. Areas of rust are visible throughout the shield, lower gown, and area under Liberty's left armpit. Two diagonal and parallel die scratches are visible on Liberty's hip above the upper shield tip.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports seven in PR63 Cameo and 12 finer. NGC shows one PR63 Cameo and 15 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The small production of 10,000 circulation-strike 1865 dimes places added pressure on the proofs. Five hundred of the latter were made, about one-half of which are extant, based on population reports. Perusal of Heritage records reveals that only 23 Cameo 1865 dimes have appeared through the major auction houses over the past 20-some years.

Provenance: Numisma '95 (*Stack's session*, 11/1995), lot 1192. NGC ID# 23CN, PCGS# 84758

1865 Dime, Stunning PR66 Cameo
A Significant Condition Rarity



98326 1865 PR66 Cameo NGC. F-102. Deep maroon and cobalt-blue toning around the borders of this Premium Gem Cameo proof frames the lighter greenish-blue central fields. Frosted devices are mostly light grayish-white and stand out against the mirrored and more deeply patinated fields. Razor-sharp definition is seen on the design elements, enhancing even further the pleasing eye appeal. A few trivial, unobtrusive marks might preclude Superb Gem classification. A great coin for a high-grade Seated dime collection.

Variety: Fortin-102, R.4. High date with a slight upward slope. Two diagonal, parallel die scratches appear on Liberty's hip above the upper tip of the shield. Die rust also shows throughout the shield and lower gown. Fortin also classifies a Fortin-101 variety, writing that Ahwash indicates another proof die pair with a high, level, repunched date, but that "... none have been seen to date."

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports two Premium Gem Cameos and three finer, while PCGS shows two in PR66 Cameo and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1865 proof dimes were produced to the tune of 500 pieces. These are in demand owing to the rarity of the business strikes, which claim a small mintage of 10,000 coins. The present offering with its stunning Cameo is a significant condition rarity in its own right.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (12/2005). NGC ID# 23CN, PCGS# 84758

1866 Dime, Stunning PR66 Ultra Cameo
Excellent Choice for a Seated Dime Set



98327 1866 PR66 Ultra Cameo NGC. F-102. The frosty white motifs of Liberty, the wreath, and ONE DIME appear to be suspended above the deeply mirrored fields of this stunning Premium Gem Cameo. Razor-sharp design elements and impeccably preserved surfaces further enhance the eye appeal. Maroon toning clings to the margins while the central fields display electric-blue hues.

Variety: The 1866 proof dime comes in two varieties. The present coin is Fortin-102, R.3, with a medium, upward-sloping date. A die defect is visible in the lower part of the shield between lines 6 and 7.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports only six Ultra Cameo 1866 dimes, including the current PR66 and two finer. PCGS shows 12 Deep Cameos, including two PR66 (one PR66+) and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1866 dime has the highest proof mintage, at 725 pieces, of the 1862-1869 era. Nevertheless, the rarity of the 8,000 business strikes produced places strong pressure on the proofs from date collectors. The present coin is a great choice for a high-grade Seated dime collection.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (12/2005). NGC ID# 23CP, PCGS# 94759

1866 Dime, Resplendent PR67 ★



98328 1866 F-102, R.3, PR67 ★ NGC. Slivers of deep cobalt-blue and lavender gravitate to the obverse margin of this gorgeous Superb Gem proof, ceding to softer shades of russet in the center. Liberty's portrait displays modest contrast with the mirrored fields. The reverse features a melange of deep lavender, and lighter bluish-green, violet, and rose. The design elements are sharply impressed and both sides yield immaculate preservation. These attributes combine to affirm the coveted Star designation.

Variety: Fortin-102, R.3. Medium date, upward slope. A die defect is evident in the lower part of the shield between lines 6 and 7.

Population Data (9/15): This PR67 ★ NGC example is one of two in this grade. One PR68 and one PR68 ★ are finer.

Heritage Commentary: A total of 725 proof dimes were produced in 1866. A mere five examples at NGC have been awarded the Star designation. The Seated dime specialist will not want to miss out on this resplendent example.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (6/2005). NGC ID# 23CP, PCGS# 539017 Base PCGS# 4759

1868 Dime, PR64 Cameo
Misplaced Date Variety
Ex: Eliasberg



98329 1868 PR64 Cameo PCGS. CAC. F-105. Ex: Eliasberg. Stunning cameo contrast on this near-Gem reaches out to the observer. Soft orange-beige dominates the Liberty motif, wreath, and all the letters and date digits, all of which are further highlighted by the deeper hues of bluish-green in the fields. The design elements exhibit crisp detail, and an occasional wispy field hairline barely precludes a Gem classification. This piece displays outstanding eye appeal.

Variety: Fortin identifies two proof varieties. The present coin is Fortin-105, High R.4, high, level, blundered or misplaced date. The 1 digit is punched twice into the base directly above the final 18 digits. The full base and upright of the higher misplaced 1 is clearly visible below the end of the scroll. The left base of the second 1 digit is visible below the upper blundered digit. Fortin suggests a premium for this variety of 50%-100%.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports nine in PR64 (one PR64+) Cameo and 16 coins finer. NGC shows 14 in PR64 (one PR64 ★) Cameo and 13 finer. About one in five of the certified proofs at both services exhibit a cameo finish.

Heritage Commentary: The population figures indicate that while 1868 proof dimes can be obtained with patience, those with a cameo finish will require more diligent searching. This factor, along with a notable pedigree, CAC endorsement, and a rarer variety makes the present near-Gem Cameo proof a standout in the Gardner sale.

Provenance: *Bowers and Merena (5/1996), lot 1185.* NGC ID# 23CS, PCGS# 84761



1871 Dime, Beautifully Toned PR66
Strong Date-Collector Demand



98330 1871 F-102, R.4, PR66 PCGS. CAC. This beautifully toned Premium Gem proof dime displays deep layers of original sea-green and orange-gold toning across both sides, which exhibit modest field-motif contrast. The design elements are sharply struck, and the surfaces are free of bothersome marks or hairlines. The CAC sticker affirms the pleasing eye appeal.

Variety: Fortin-102, R.4. Attributed by a medium level date and a die crack through the bottom of the ribbons and into right wreath.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 13 in PR66 (one PR66+) and none finer. NGC shows 13 in PR66 and five finer.

Heritage Commentary: Date collector pressure for proofs from the 1870s is lessened due to the larger mintages of circulation strikes — nearly 1 million pieces in the case of the 1871 issue — compared to the lower productions of the 1860s. The reported proof mintage of the 1871 was 960 coins.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 5/2008), lot 107. PCGS# 539028 Base PCGS# 4764

1873 No Arrows, Closed 3 Dime, PR66
Two Finer at PCGS



98331 1873 Closed 3, No Arrows, F-101, R.3, PR66 PCGS. CAC. Mint-green accents encompass the borders, complementing blue and violet hues that prevail over each side. This Premium Gem proof is fully struck, an attribute that not all survivors can claim. Housed in a green label holder.

Variety: Fortin-101, with a medium date sloping slightly downward and a broken first S in STATES.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of five PR66 grading events at PCGS with only two finer, while NGC shows 12 in PR66 (one PR66 ★) and nine finer. CAC has given the green approval to seven in this grade and one PR67 finer.

Heritage Commentary: All 600 1873 No Arrows proofs have a Closed 3 in the date. The entire mintage was accomplished prior to the passage of the Mint Act of 1873 on February 12; Walter Breen's *Proof Encyclopedia* notes that an unspecified number were melted on July 10.

Provenance: Pre-Long Beach Auction (Goldberg Auctions, 2/2007), lot 1303. PCGS# 539032 Base PCGS# 4766

1874 Arrows Dime, Deeply Toned PR64
An Important Type Coin



98332 1874 Arrows, F-101, R.3, PR64 PCGS. Crimson-orange patination is confined mostly to Liberty's portrait, the remaining obverse surfaces assuming grayish and sky-blue coloration. The reverse displays a medley of violet-purple, russet, and sky-blue. The toning is fairly deep on both sides. The design elements are sharply defined, and occasional minute, unobtrusive marks are concealed within the toning.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.3. This variety is easily recognizable due to a large die defect directly above the center point of Liberty's neckline. In addition, the 4 digit exhibits some minor repunching above the left and right feet.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 75 submissions in PR64 and 30 finer.

Heritage Commentary: This issue is part of a two-year design type (1873-1874). Arrows were placed at the date in 1873 as a result of the Mint Act of February 12, 1873. The weight of the dime was increased to 2.5 gm in an attempted conversion of U.S. coinage to the metric system. The arrows at the date lasted only through 1874. Both the 1873 and 1874 Arrows issues command a premium due to their type status.

Provenance: Numisma '95 (*Stack's session*, 11/1995), lot 1194. PCGS# 539034 Base PCGS# 4770

1874 Arrows Dime, PR66
Final Two-Year Type Issue



98333 1874 Arrows, F-101, R.3, PR66 NGC. This Premium Gem may exhibit subdued field-device contrast, but it compensates with its terrific eye appeal. Intermixed blue, green, and violet colors blanket surfaces with only a few scattered contact marks. Deeply reflective, flashy fields underlie the attractive patina.

Variety: Fortin-101. A repunched 4 in the date and a die defect on Liberty's neck are diagnostic of this proof issue.

Population Data (9/15): There are 15 PR66 examples at NGC and nine comparable pieces at PCGS. NGC shows two finer submissions, and there is one at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: The first quarter of 1874 saw the production of 400 proof dimes, while 300 specimens were struck during the second quarter. Breen (1989) notes that, coincidentally, the mintage corresponds to the number of silver-minor proof sets issued in 1874. However, the sets issued earlier in the year likely included leftover proof dimes from 1873, leaving the remaining 1874 proof dimes for the following year.

Provenance: Purchased from Kevin Lipton (3/2007). PCGS# 539034 Base PCGS# 4770

1875 Dime, Sharp PR66 Cameo
Wonderful Eye Appeal



98334 1875 PR66 Cameo NGC. CAC. F-101. Strong field-motif contrast is evident over both sides of this Premium Gem proof, displaying a blend of deep reddish-purple and orange toning around the borders and soft grayish-green and greenish-blue in the centers. All design features are boldly impressed. As might be expected, the surfaces are immaculately preserved. This coin manifests wonderful eye appeal.

Variety: Fortin identifies two varieties for the 1875 proof dime. The present offering is Fortin-101, R.3, distinguished from Fortin-102 by the 1 in the date centered over a dentil, the 8 centered slightly to the right over a dentil, the 7 centered over a dentil, and the 5 centered slightly to the right over a space between dentils. Doubling is evident to the upper left of the O in ONE.

Population Date (9/15): NGC reports 14 grading events in PR66 Cameo and six finer. PCGS accounts for eight and one in comparable grades. This piece is among six in this grade with the CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: Seven hundred proof dimes were manufactured in 1875. Nearly one-half of that number (340 pieces, less duplicates) have been certified by the two major services. So while proof examples are fairly available on the market, Cameos such as the present offering with its above-average eye appeal and CAC endorsement are not all that easy to come by.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (12/2005). NGC ID# 23CY, PCGS# 84772

1875 Dime, PR67 Cameo
Sole Finest at PCGS



98335 1875 PR67 Cameo PCGS. F-101. This Superb Gem proof is splashed with generous quantities of bluish-green, orange, and reddish-gold. Deeply mirrored fields accentuate the frosted motifs, producing strong contrast. Both sides are impeccably preserved.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.3. Medium date with a slight downward slope, and doubling showing to the upper left of O in ONE. The date digits line up with the dentils as shown in the Fortin-101 webpage illustration.

Population Data (9/15): The present PR67 Cameo coin is the sole finest at PCGS. NGC shows five pieces in PR67 Cameo (one PR67 ★ Cameo) and one PR68 ★ Cameo finer.

Heritage Commentary: Even though Gene Gardner owned two 1875 proof dimes by mid-2006, in PR66 Cameo NGC and PR67 Cameo PCGS, respectively, he nonetheless purchased a third example, PR67 PCGS, in late 2012. He was always on the lookout not only for technical grade but the finest obtainable aesthetic appeal.

Provenance: Dallas Signature (Heritage, 7/2006), lot 637. NGC ID# 23CY, PCGS# 84772

1876 Dime, Toned PR66 Cameo
Among the Finest Known



98336 1876 PR66 Cameo NGC. F-101. Deep reddish-purple toning at the margins and cobalt-blue in the deeply mirrored central fields highlight the frosty-white devices. Sharply struck design elements enhance even further the magnificent field-motif contrast. Nicely preserved throughout.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.4. Medium level date with a small knob 6 (the difference between the small and large knobs is extremely minor, even under magnification), faint die lines below chin, and a prominent diagonal die line on the neck.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports six submitted in PR66 Cameo and none finer. No Cameos are certified this fine at PCGS. Less than 20% of the certified examples of this date at the two services exhibit a Cameo finish.

Heritage Commentary: All 1876 proof dimes were struck from the Type One reverse with the E in ONE nearly touching the wreath. This Centennial year saw the mintage of 1,150 proof dimes (along with an equal number of Indian cents, quarter dollars, half dollars, and Trade dollars).

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (12/2005). NGC ID# 23CZ, PCGS# 84773

1877 Seated Dime, Toned PR65



98337 1877 PR65 PCGS. CAC. F-101. Forest-green with tinges of blue clings to the margins of this Gem proof, encircling the reddish-beige and golden centers. Sharply struck design features and nicely preserved surfaces further enhance the coin's pleasing eye appeal, aptly recognized by CAC.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.4. Medium level date with a broken first S in STATES and doubling of DI(ME) and in the lower right wreath.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 13 pieces in PR65 (one PR65+) and nine finer. NGC shows 12 in this grade and 20 finer.

Heritage Commentary: All 1877 proof dimes are of the Type Two Reverse with the E in ONE farther from the wreath. Breen (1988) writes that Mint Engraver William Barber created the new reverse hub to improve strike quality, which, according to Breen, it failed to do.

Provenance: Houston Signature (Heritage, 11/2007), lot 60404. NGC ID# 23D2, PCGS# 4774

1877 Dime, Toned PR66 Cameo



98338 1877 PR66 Cameo PCGS. CAC. F-101. The central obverse is near-brilliant with a frame of blue-green and reddish-purple toning, while the reverse has a melange of deeper blue-green, gold, and rose patination. Excellent contrast appears on both sides, with fully mirrored fields around lustrous devices. The design features are sharply struck, and the surfaces well-preserved.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.4. Identified by a medium level date, a broken first S in STATES, and doubling in the ME of DIME and in the lower right wreath.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows three in PR66 Cameo (two PR66+ Cameo) and one PR67 Cameo finer. NGC reports four in PR66 Cameo and one finer. This is among four in this grade with the CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1877 dime saw 490 proofs minted, all with the Type Two reverse, in which the E in ONE is farther from the wreath than in the Type One reverse, where the E nearly touches the wreath.

Provenance: Vermeule Collection (*Stack's*, 11/2001), lot 159; Chicago Signature (*Heritage*, 8/1011), lot 3597. NGC ID# 23D2, PCGS# 84774

1878 Seated Dime, PR66
A Top-Graded Example at PCGS



98339 1878 Type Two Reverse, F-101, R.3, PR66 PCGS. Multicolor patina shrouds each side in shades of peach-orange, sea-green, sky-blue, lilac, and purple, of sufficient depth that it prevents a Cameo designation. Nevertheless, this Premium Gem proof shows abundant contrast between the frosty devices and mirrorlike fields. A top-graded proof.

Variety: Fortin-101, Type Two Reverse. Die rust in the lower right gown and small die lines in the lower right oak leaves affirm the proof status.

Population Data (9/15): The finest at PCGS are nine in PR66. NGC shows 11 submissions PR66 with four PR67 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The Philadelphia Mint struck 800 proofs in 1878, all during the first quarter. Attention undoubtedly shifted toward the production of newly authorized Morgan dollars later in the year.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (11/2004). PCGS# 539041 Base PCGS# 4775

1879 Dime, PR67 ★ Cameo
Conditionally Rare



98340 1879 PR67 ★ Cameo NGC. F-101. Reddish-purple toning surround the obverse rim of this stunning PR67 ★ Cameo dime, with barely a hint of color evident on the reverse. The design elements are sharply impressed and display pronounced contrast with the mirrored fields, especially on the reverse. Both sides are impeccably preserved.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.5. The proof dies show a medium level date.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports two coins in PR67 ★ Cameo and none finer. PCGS shows three in PR66 Cameo and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: The small mintage of 14,000 circulation strikes and their rarity in higher grades puts pressure on the proofs from date collectors. The current Superb Gem Star Cameo proof is a significant condition rarity in this level of preservation.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (12/2005). NGC ID# 23D4, PCGS# 84776

1880 Dime, PR67
Excellent Visual and Technical Quality



98341 1880 F-101, R.3, PR67 PCGS. CAC. CAC has rightfully acknowledged the eye appeal and quality within the grade of this Superb Gem proof. Orange and lavender tones paint the obverse, while the reverse displays predominantly steel-blue and green hues. Devoid of all but a few microscopic flecks.

Variety: Fortin-101. The date placement and a die defect on the M in DIME distinguish Fortin-101 from the other 1880 proof die pair (Fortin-102).

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 12 submissions in PR67 (one PR67+) and two finer in PR68. NGC shows 14 and seven in the same grade levels. Nine in PR67 have the CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: In this lofty grade, circulation strikes and proofs are roughly equally available. However, collector demand for high-grade examples from the low-mintage business-strike issue of only 36,000 pieces, putting pressure on carefully preserved proofs such as this Superb Gem.

Provenance: ANA Sale of the Millennium (Bowers and Merena, 8/2000), lot 1116. PCGS# 539047 Base PCGS# 4777

1880 Dime, Conditionally Rare PR68



98342 1880 F-101, R.3, PR68 NGC. Rich toning is imbued with salmon-pink and electric-blue iridescence. The toning is nowhere near deep enough to impede the appreciation of the glistening, reflective fields and razor-sharp devices. No distracting hairlines or contact marks appear on either side of this solidly graded Superb Gem.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.3. The proof dies show a medium level date with the second 8 broken. The first S in STATES is partial, and a large defect is visible at the bottom of the right upright of M in DIME.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports seven examples in PR68 (two PR68 ★) and none finer, while PCGS shows two pieces in PR68 and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: Gene Gardner owned three examples of the 1880 Seated dime issue in PR67 and PR68, but of the three he considered this piece to have the best eye appeal, giving it an “8” on his scale of 1-10 — high praise from such an aesthetically attuned numismatist. This immaculate Superb Gem proof will be a standout coin in any assemblage of Seated dimes.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 9/2002), lot 6257; Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2003), lot 6321. PCGS# 539047 Base PCGS# 4777

1882 Dime, Pleasing PR66 Cameo
Ex: Eliasberg



98343 1882 PR66 Cameo PCGS. CAC. F-101. Ex: Eliasberg. Soft reddish-gold toning dominates the obverse of this Premium Gem Cameo proof, accented with whispers of cobalt-blue. The reverse displays deeper shades of similar color and more cobalt-blue patina. The design elements are sharply struck including Liberty's head, which is sometimes weak on this date. Both sides exhibit pleasing cameo contrast. This piece has been well-cared for.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.3. The proof dies show a repunched 2 with a downward-sloping high date. There is a defect to the right of the upper ball of the 2.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 18 in PR66 Cameo (two PR66+ Cameo) and nine finer. NGC shows 21 and 16 in comparable grade levels.

Heritage Commentary: Some of the 1,100 proof dimes struck in 1882 were melted in early 1883 as unsold, per Walter Breen. The present offering bears an impressive pedigree (dating back more than 120 years) along with the CAC approval and is highly desirable as such.

Provenance: William Dickinson Collection (Chapman Brothers, 4/1894); J.M Clapp; Clapp Estate, 1942, to Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; Eliasberg Collection (Bowers and Merena, 5/1996), lot 1223. NGC ID# 23D7, PCGS# 84779

1884 Dime, PR65 Cameo
Pleasing Eye Appeal, Ex: Eliasberg



98344 1884 PR65 Cameo PCGS. CAC. F-101. Ex: Eliasberg. Cobalt-blue patina clings to the margins of this Gem Cameo proof, framing reddish-gold toning. The color palette is somewhat deeper on the reverse. Sharply struck design features and well-cared-for surfaces round out the pleasing eye appeal, aptly recognized by CAC.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.3. The proof dies shows a medium date with a slight downward slope.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 15 in PR65 Cameo (one PR65+ Cameo) and 22 finer. This former Eliasberg coin is among only five in this grade with the CAC green bean.

Heritage Commentary: The present Gem Cameo proof with its pleasing eye appeal and Eliasberg pedigree will make a significant addition to a Seated dime collection. Gene Gardner owned two other examples of this date, a PR67 PCGS coin and a PR68 NGC piece.

Provenance: Chapman Brothers (11/1893), private sale to J.M. Clapp; Clapp Estate, 1942, to Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; Eliasberg Collection (Bowers and Merena (5/1996), lot 1225. NGC ID# 23D9, PCGS# 84781

1884 Dime, Patinated PR67
Seldom Seen Finer



98345 1884 F-101, R.3, PR67 PCGS. CAC. A melange of lavender, orange, purple, and emerald-green patination adorns this Superb Gem proof dime. The design elements are sharply struck throughout, and the surfaces on both sides are impeccably preserved. This piece exudes great overall eye appeal and is well-deserving of CAC endorsement.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.3. The medium level date shows a slight downward slope from left to right.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 12 in PR67 (one PR67+) and three finer, while NGC shows 21 in PR67 and five PR68 (two PR68 ★) finer.

Heritage Commentary: One of three examples of this proof date in the Gardner Collection, struck to the extent of 875 pieces. Seldom does a finer-graded piece than the present coin — or one with greater eye appeal, for that matter — appear at auction. The lovely color on this coin should single it out to many discriminating bidders.

Provenance: Stack's (11/2006), lot 63. PCGS# 539055 Base PCGS# 4781

1885 Dime, Sharply Struck PR64 Cameo
Ex: Eliasberg



98346 1885 PR64 Cameo PCGS. CAC. F-101. Ex: Eliasberg. Moderately frosted devices display soft gold-russet toning and are highlighted by mirrored fields toned in steel-blue. The design elements are sharply impressed, including Liberty's head, a feature that is often weak on this issue. Both sides are well-preserved.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.3. Repunched 1 with a high date and slight downward slope. The top of the flag in the 1 is repunched, and the top left and top right wheat stalks exhibit a barely discernable die break.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 27 submitted in PR64 Cameo (two PR64+ Cameo) with nearly four dozen finer.

Heritage Commentary: The Mint produced 930 dimes in proof format in 1885, a fairly large number of which have survived to the present day. The present near-Gem Cameo with its impressive pedigree, sharp strike, and CAC endorsement will elicit the attention of advanced Seated Liberty dime collectors.

Provenance: William Dickinson Collection (Chapman Brothers, 3/1894); J.M. Clapp; Clapp Estate, 1942, to Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; Eliasberg Collection (Bowers and Merena, 5/1996), lot 1227. NGC ID# 23DA, PCGS# 84782

1886 Dime, Outstanding PR67 Cameo



98347 1886 PR67 Cameo NGC. CAC. F-103. Cobalt-blue, crimson, and reddish-orange patination surround the borders of this Superb Gem Cameo proof and frame the mostly whitish-gray, frosted Liberty and wreath motifs, which are accentuated by the mirrored fields. Sharply struck design elements and impeccably preserved surfaces further add to the outstanding eye appeal.

Variety: Fortin identifies two die pairs for 1886 proof dimes. The present example is Fortin-103, R.3, medium date with a downward slope.

Population Date (9/15): NGC reports 12 submissions in PR67 Cameo (one PR67 ★ Cameo) and three finer. PCGS shows one such specimen and none finer. The present offering is one of the two finest of the 17 1886 proof dimes designated with a cameo finish endorsed by CAC.

Heritage Commentary: The 1886 dime claims a production of 886 proofs. The current PR67 Cameo with its outstanding eye appeal is an excellent choice for a high-grade type set. Gene Gardner rated this coin's eye appeal as a 7 out of 10 on his records; few coins received an 8.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (12/2005). NGC ID# 23DB, PCGS# 84783

1887 Dime, PR66
Above-Average Strike



98348 1887 PR66 NGC. CAC. F-101. Rose and bluish-green toning is more vivid on the reverse of this Premium Gem proof. Sharp definition is evident on the design elements, including Liberty's head, which is typically weakly struck on 1887 dimes. Both sides have been well-cared for.

Variety: Fortin-101, R.3. High date with a slight downward slope. A faint die line exits the right edge of the shield and moves upward diagonally. This piece is certified in an NGC no-line fatty holder.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 32 submissions in PR66 and nine finer. PCGS shows 12 examples in PR66 and one finer.

Heritage Commentary: The Mint produced 710 proof dimes in 1887. Premium Gem is the highest level of preservation that is likely to be encountered, as the 1887 proof dime is very rare any finer.

Provenance: *Bowers and Merena (11/1998), lot 1410.* NGC ID# 23DC, PCGS# 4784

1889 Dime, PR65
A Popular Type Coin



98349 1889 PR65 PCGS. CAC. F-102. Russet, maroon, gold-tan, and bluish-green toning assumes deeper hues on the reverse of this Gem proof. The design features are well-struck though the hair atop Liberty's head is a tad weak, a typical characteristic of the 1889 dime. This well-preserved coin yields pleasing eye appeal, appropriately recognized by CAC.

Variety: Fortin recognizes two varieties for the 1889 proof dime. The current offering is Fortin-102, R.4. Proof Die, Medium Date, Downward Slope, Open 9. Breen (1988) contends that the Open 9 variety comprises a "large minority of proofs." Fortin, on the other hand, says "both varieties are equally available."

Population Data (8/15): PCGS reports 28 submissions in PR65 and 21 finer, with NGC showing 27 and 46 at the same levels. CAC has given the green approval to six in this grade and seven PR66 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1889 dime saw a production of 711 proofs and is popular for type purposes. With 365 pieces graded by PCGS and NGC, it is available with little trouble. NGC ID# 23DE, PCGS# 4786

1889 Dime, Patinated PR68
One of Two Known



98350 1889 PR68 NGC. F-102. Blue-green and lavender toning visits the obverse of this Superb Gem proof, while the reverse consists of a medley of lavender, russet, orange, and emerald-green. The design elements are sharply struck, and both sides are immaculately preserved. Unimprovable in all respects.

Variety: Fortin-102, R.4. The proof dies show a medium date with a downward slope, thin numerals, and an open 9.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports two examples in PR68 and none finer. PCGS reports none in PR68. Most certified examples range from PR63 to PR66. This issue becomes extremely rare at the PR67 level.

Heritage Commentary: The 1889 dime saw a production of 711 proofs, and as the population reports indicate this issue is readily available through Premium Gem. The present PR68 offering presents the Seated dime specialist with an infrequent opportunity to acquire a significant proof rarity that displays outstanding technical quality and aesthetic appeal.

Provenance: Sotheby's (11/1999), lot 4. NGC ID# 23DE, PCGS# 4786

BARBER DIMES

1892-O Dime, MS66
Conditionally Rare



98351 1892-O MS66 NGC. CAC. The 1892-O was produced to the extent of 3.8 million coins. Although many examples were undoubtedly saved as the first of their kind, this issue is rare in Premium Gem grade. Mottled silver-gray, champagne-russet, and greenish-blue toning cascades over frosty textured surfaces, and the design elements are sharply struck for a New Orleans date. The surfaces are well-preserved throughout.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports seven in MS66 and two finer. PCGS reports 10 MS66 (three MS66+) and one finer. This piece is among only six in this grade with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1892-O is the most frequently encountered New Orleans Barber dime in Mint State, though Premium Gem and finer pieces are rare. This was Gene Gardner's "backup coin" behind an MS67 NGC example of the issue.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 9/2002), lot 6275. NGC ID# 23DL, PCGS# 4797

1893-O Dime, Gorgeous MS67
Above-Average Strike
One of Four Finest at NGC



98352 1893-O MS67 NGC. Both sides of this gorgeous Superb Gem 1893-O dime are awash with strong mint luster. Light reddish-gold toning gravitates to the obverse border, ceding to deeper hues of this color palette at the reverse margin, where it is joined with cobalt-blue and purple. The design elements are sharply impressed, including the lower-left portion of the reverse wreath, an area often weakly struck. Impeccably preserved surfaces round out the outstanding eye appeal.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports three submissions in MS67 and none finer. PCGS shows two in MS67 and one MS68 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1893-O dime, from a mintage of nearly 1.8 million pieces, is difficult to locate in all levels of preservation. Indeed, all O-mint Barber dimes produced from 1893 to 1897 are semikey and key-date issues. Perhaps surprisingly, about one-half of the 400 or so coins certified by NGC and PCGS are in Mint State, mostly Gem and lower.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (12/2009). NGC ID# 23DR, PCGS# 4801

1894 Dime, Boldly Struck MS65
Outstanding Eye Appeal



98353 1894 MS65 NGC. Cobalt-blue, lavender, and orange-gold peripheral toning frames the white central area on the obverse, while deep bluish-gray reverse fields highlight near-white devices. A modest cameo effect is apparent on the reverse. Boldly struck design elements and nicely preserved surfaces round out the outstanding eye appeal.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 22 submitted in MS65 (one MS65 ★) and 13 finer. PCGS shows 24 and 12 in comparable levels.

Heritage Commentary: The 1894 dime saw a mintage exceeding 1.3 million pieces. This issue circulated widely well into the 20th century, leaving most survivors well-worn. Mint State examples can be located with some searching, mostly through near-Gem. Gems are quite scarce, and higher-grade pieces are rare. While not the finest-graded 1894, the eye appeal of this coin is certain to engender spirited bidding.

Provenance: Superior Galleries (1/2003), lot 463. NGC ID# 23DT, PCGS# 4803

1894-O Dime, Patinated MS64
An Important Key Date



98354 1894-O MS64 PCGS. CAC. Bluish-green and golden-tan patination bathes the lustrous surfaces of this near-Gem O-mint dime, deeper on the reverse. The design elements are well-struck, a characteristic of most 1894-O dimes. Close examination reveals no significant marks on either side. Housed in a prior generation holder.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 10 submissions in MS64 (one MS64+) and 10 finer. NGC shows four pieces in MS64 and two finer — one MS65 and one MS67.

Heritage Commentary: The 1894-O, from a mintage of 720,000 pieces, is a semikey in lower grades and a key date in AU and above. David Lawrence assigns a rarity rating of R.6 in MS64 and finer.

Provenance: *Bowers and Merena (3/1998), lot 570. NGC ID# 23DU, PCGS# 4804*

1895 Dime, Frosty MS66
Low-Mintage Key Issue



98355 1895 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Both sides of this Premium Gem dime are thickly and evenly coated with a frosty overlay of grayish patina and a slight tinge of charcoal and gold. The strike is uniformly bold throughout. The only distraction is a tiny, hair-thin luster graze appearing on the cheek when the coin is tilted at a certain angle. While picayune, this minor mark appears to have limited an even finer grade. On a positive note, it may help to identify the coin for future catalogers.

Population Data (9/15): Nearly half of the 1895 dimes graded by PCGS and NGC are in Mint State, but they are mostly MS64 and lower. PCGS reports 19 submitted in MS66 (one MS66+) and four MS67 finer, while NGC shows two in MS66 and one each in MS67 and MS68 finer. Six in MS66 have attained the CAC green approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: The 1895 is a key date in the Barber dime series, from a mintage of only 690,000 circulation strikes. It is the lowest-mintage Barber dime struck in the Philadelphia Mint, and the only P-mint issue with a mintage lower than 1 million coins.

Provenance: *Central States Signature (Heritage, 4/2008), lot 2268; purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (4/2009). NGC ID# 23DV, PCGS# 4806*

1896 Dime, Attractively Toned MS66
A Better Date in the Series



98356 1896 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Attractive speckled multicolored patina adorns the peripheries, while the central areas display soft pinkish-gray toning. This piece is boldly struck and impeccably preserved, with typical, pleasing satiny luster, making it well-deserving of the CAC sticker.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 21 in MS66 (eight MS66+) and one MS67 finer. The finest at NGC are 10 in MS66. This piece is among five in this grade with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1896 dime, with a production of 2 million pieces, is a better date in all levels of preservation and is among the more underrated P-mint Barber dimes in the better Mint State grades.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (11/2005). NGC ID# 23DY, PCGS# 4809

1896-O Dime, MS65
Key Date in the Series
Old Green Label Holder, Gold CAC



98357 1896-O MS65 PCGS. Gold CAC. Lightly toned surfaces feature lilac and pearl-gray centers with peripheral green, blue, and yellow elements. The strike is sharp, aside from a touch of softness on Liberty's forecurls and the lower-left wreath leaves. The description in the August 1999 Bowers and Merena catalog noted: "Very similar in appearance and quality to the gem Eliasberg coin." Housed in an old green label holder with a rare gold CAC sticker.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS has seen eight MS65 examples and seven in MS66 (one MS66+) finer. NGC shows six Gem grading events and six finer, all MS66 (one MS66 ★). This is the only 1896-O Barber dime with a gold CAC approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: All Barber coins struck at the New Orleans Mint in 1896 are considered top rarities in their respective series. A small production of 610,000 dimes was accomplished in that year, and the issue is highly coveted by collectors across all grade levels. High-end pieces like the one offered here sustain the strongest demand. This exceptional representative, conservatively graded and boasting a rare gold CAC approval sticker, undoubtedly rivals the top-graded coins at each service, and it should command significant attention when it crosses the block.

Provenance: *Rarities Sale (Bowers and Merena, 8/1999), lot 120.* NGC ID# 23DZ, PCGS# 4810

1896-S Barber Dime, MS65
Conditionally Rare Semikey Issue



98358 1896-S MS65 PCGS. CAC. The design definition on this Gem S-mint Barber dime is razor-sharp, and the eye appeal is every bit as strong. The obverse shows slate-gray centers with golden-russet edge toning, while the reverse exhibits mixed lilac, gold, and blue-green patina.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of 15 in MS65 at PCGS (one in MS65+) with 27 pieces finer. NGC reports 14 coins in MS65 and 15 submissions finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1896-S (575,056 coins struck) boasts a lower mintage than its New Orleans Mint counterpart yet tends to take a back seat to the more famous 1896-O, which David Lawrence describes as a “magical date.” In reality, this issue is only marginally more available overall, and top-notch Gems may prove equally challenging to locate.

Provenance: *Albert W. Savage Collection (Stack's, 10/1997), lot 486. NGC ID# 23E2, PCGS# 4811*

1897-S Dime, MS65
Frosty Cartwheel Luster



98359 1897-S MS65 PCGS. CAC. Frosty cartwheel luster shines through steel-blue and golden-tan patina, accounting for this Gem's splendid visual appeal. Each side exhibits boldly impressed design motifs, especially on the wreath. Two small pedigree markers appear on Liberty's chin. Encapsulated in a green label holder.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS lists 10 Gems with eight submissions finer. There are six in MS65 at NGC and three finer — two in MS66, one in MS67.

Heritage Commentary: This is a somewhat better date in the series, with a mintage of 1.3 million coins. The issue is conditionally rare; CoinFacts ranks it 14th out of 76 dates in MS65 or better.

Provenance: *Boys Town Collection (Bowers and Merena, 3/1998), lot 583. NGC ID# 23E5, PCGS# 4814*

1899 Dime, MS66
Beautiful Type Coin



98360 1899 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Peach-orange, violet, and blue-green toning, indicative of long-term storage in an old-time collection, generates fantastic eye appeal. This Premium Gem is fully struck with no individual marks of note. A heavy die crack joins the upper-left reverse rim to the left wheat sheaf.

Population Data (9/15): There are 17 MS66 (one MS66+) submissions at PCGS with four finer, while NGC has seen six Premium Gems and four finer.

Heritage Commentary: With a production exceeding 19.5 million coins, the 1899 is among the most available dates in the Barber dime series. The issue only becomes challenging in this high grade, making this an ideal coin for type purposes.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (6/2006). NGC ID# 23E9, PCGS# 4818

1900 Dime, MS66
Iridescent Pastel Toning



98361 1900 MS66 PCGS. CAC. The toning on this Premium Gem is immensely appealing with iridescent glints of pastel pink, blue, green and delicate yellow. The reverse patina is especially well-balanced, showing rich aquamarine rims blending with rose-gray centers. Clean surfaces feature shimmering mint frost and well-struck devices.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 14 submitted in MS66 (three MS66+) and six finer, while NGC shows 10 examples in MS66 (one MS66 ★) and five in MS67 finer. This piece is among eight in this grade with the CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: A collectible date in the series with a mintage of 17.6 million coins, the 1900 is available all the way through MS65. The population of Premium Gems declines considerably, and higher-graded coins are extremely rare. This CAC-endorsed MS66 example offers the ideal mix of conditional rarity and eye appeal — not to mention the Gardner pedigree — for the budget-minded specialist.

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2008), lot 1028; purchased from Premium Numismatics (2/2008). NGC ID# 23EC, PCGS# 4821

1903 Dime, Marvelous MS66
Three Finer at Both Services



98362 1903 MS66 NGC. CAC. Swirling, frosty luster blends with gold and lavender patina over well-preserved surfaces with a few minuscule ticks. The wheat sheaves and right ear of corn show pinpoint definition, while a trace of softness occurs over Liberty's headband and the denomination. This is a marvelous Premium Gem, technically and visually.

Population Data (9/15): NGC lists nine in MS66 with a single MS67 finer. There are 12 and two finer submissions in comparable grades at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: The 1903 is slightly more elusive in high grades than later Philadelphia Barber dime issues, but it remains a relatively accessible date. With only three examples graded finer at both services, this Premium Gem would be exceedingly difficult to upgrade.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (7/2007). NGC ID# 23EM, PCGS# 4830

1905-O Dime, MS65
Gold CAC Approval



98363 1905-O MS65 NGC. Gold CAC. The 1905-O Barber dime issue typically comes softly struck, but this example is sharply detailed on the headband and wreath elements. The surfaces are unaffected by any noticeable blemishes, and the softly frosted luster is highly attractive. A lovely combination of brilliance and mottled peach-tan patina colors each side with the underlying luster shining through.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports just 12 coins in MS65 with 11 submissions finer. There is only one other 1905-O with a gold CAC sticker, an MS67.

Heritage Commentary: The Louisiana mint manufactured 3.4 million dimes in 1905, and the availability of high-grade representatives makes this one of the more collectible O-mint Barber dime issues. The gold approval sticker indicates that CAC believes this coin is undergraded by at least one point.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2005), lot 6289; Pre-Long Beach Coin and Currency Auction (Goldberg Auctions, 2/2008), lot 2018. NGC ID# 23EU, PCGS# 4836

1905-O Dime, Lightly Patinated MS66
Bold Definition for the Issue



98364 1905-O MS66 NGC. Delicate bands of russet, magenta, and ice-blue toning surround brilliant interiors on each side with coruscating luster throughout. Like the other 1905-O offered in this sale, the devices display better strike detail than is usually encountered on examples from this O-mint issue. The date is a trifle soft, and a few light marks are of little importance.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports seven in MS66 and four MS67 finer. PCGS shows 19 Premium Gems with six finer.

Heritage Commentary: This coin is quite similar in appearance to the MS67 NGC example that recently sold as part of the second installment of Eugene Gardner's historic collection (Heritage, 10/2014). An absolutely beautiful New Orleans representative that is conditionally rare in this impressive state of preservation.

Provenance: Purchased from Simco Numismatics (1/1999). NGC ID# 23EU, PCGS# 4836

1905-S Dime, Eye-Catching MS66
A Memorable Example



98365 1905-S MS66 PCGS. CAC. The combination of shimmering frosty luster and dramatic multihued toning provides the viewer with a memorable first impression. Closer inspection reveals stunning shades of blue and purple with green and orange accents over surfaces that are free from all but a few lightly scattered flecks. The bold strike is typical of S-mint dimes from the period. Housed in an older green label holder.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 18 submissions in MS66 with three finer, while NGC shows one coin each in MS66 and MS67. This piece is among three so graded with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: After restricting production to 800,000 dimes in 1904, the California branch mint manufactured more than 6.8 million coins in 1905. Choice examples are readily available, but the surviving population drops off severely in Gem condition. Premium Gems are very rare, and finer coins are almost unseen in today's marketplace.

Provenance: Elite Coin Auction (Superior, 7/2003), lot 1019. NGC ID# 23EW, PCGS# 4837

1908-O Barber Dime, MS65
Conditionally Rare



98366 1908-O MS65 PCGS. CAC. This Gem is sharply detailed for a New Orleans product with a hint of high-point incompleteness, as usual. Dappled russet and violet patina covers the obverse. The reverse maintains substantial brilliance with splashes of olive-russet toning. A few tiny ticks appear on Liberty's portrait and above (ON)E.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS and NGC, respectively, report 26 and nine submissions in MS65 with 16 finer at each service. Four in MS65 have the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1908-O is a collectible O-mint issue through MS64, though it is scarcer than the two New Orleans dates that come before it. Attractive, well-struck examples such as this are rare in Gem condition or better.

Provenance: 60th Anniversary Sale (Stack's, 10/1995), lot 374. NGC ID# 5KXH, PCGS# 4848

1911 Dime, MS67 ★
Only Two Finer at NGC



98367 1911 MS67 ★ NGC. The centers are mostly violet-gray, while the border areas display intermingled shades of fiery-orange, magenta, and ice-blue toning. Vibrant luster emanates from the colorful, immaculately preserved surfaces. A small tick on Liberty's chin is all that precludes an even higher technical assessment.

Population Data (9/15): There are 11 MS67 submissions at NGC, but this is the only one with a Star designation. PCGS reports 25 coins in MS67 (two MS67+), and each service shows two finer examples.

Heritage Commentary: The 1911 Barber dime issue was struck in an amount exceeding 18.8 million coins, and a healthy number survive through Premium Gem condition. Comparable Superb Gems are rare. The sharp strikes and attractive luster that usually accompany the 1911 heighten the issue's popularity among type enthusiasts.

Provenance: Superior (8/2006), lot 138. NGC ID# 23FJ, PCGS# 4857

1913-S Dime, Brilliant MS66
Low-Mintage Semikey



98368 1913-S MS66 PCGS. This brilliant, fully struck Premium Gem displays occasional specks of golden-tan patina that become visible upon close examination. A loupe reveals three minute ticks on Liberty's neck, but even still, this is a high-end representative for the assigned grade. Housed in a green label holder.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of 19 Premium Gems at PCGS (one in MS66+). NGC shows seven MS66 submissions. Finer examples are extremely rare: four at PCGS and a single coin at NGC.

Heritage Commentary: This coveted San Francisco issue sustains ever-strong collector demand because of its 510,000-coin mintage — the second-lowest in the entire Barber dime series. Examples were widely hoarded and can be found in most Mint State grades, but coins as fine as this are rare.

Provenance: *David Lawrence Rare Coins (3/2008), lot 451.* NGC ID# 23FS, PCGS# 4864

1914-S Dime, MS66
Three Graded Finer



98369 1914-S MS66 NGC. CAC. Bright luster issues from both sides of this Premium Gem. The surfaces are brilliant with variegated pastel accents of violet, sky-blue, and orange-yellow that appear slightly deeper on the obverse. A typically bold strike and lack of mentionable contact marks are additional hallmarks of this lovely coin.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows 12 coins in MS66 (two in MS66+, one in MS66 ★) and one finer, while PCGS shows 26 Premium Gem submissions (six in MS66+) and two finer.

Heritage Commentary: This date/mintmark combination can be located through Gem condition with a degree of effort, but finding higher-grade examples will prove challenging. The last MS67 to appear at auction that we know of was a PCGS example that brought \$13,513 in Legend Auctions' December 2014 sale.

Provenance: *Los Angeles Signature (Heritage, 7/2009), lot 512.* NGC ID# 23FV, PCGS# 4867

1915 Barber Dime, MS66 ★
Frosty, Colorful Registry Candidate



98370 1915 MS66 ★ NGC. Variegated silver-gray, aquamarine, hazel, and red toning drapes the surfaces of this frosty Premium Gem. The strike is quite sharp overall with moderate softness restricted to Liberty's forecurl, and a loupe locates only a couple of pin-sized marks.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 22 submitted in MS66 (three MS66+, one MS66 ★) and one MS67 finer. PCGS reveals 33 in MS66 (six MS66+) and also one MS67 finer.

Heritage Commentary: By 1915, the process of replacing the maligned Barber design had begun. In a memorandum Roger Burdette cites dated January 18, 1915, Assistant Treasury Secretary William P. Malburn explained to Treasury Secretary William Gibbs McAdoo "... the present silver half dollar, quarter and dime were changed in 1892, and a new design may, therefore, be adopted ..." in 1916. The first meeting with the National Commission of Fine Arts concerning possible sculptors was held on December 3, 1915, and Adolph Weinman was awarded the commission for the dime and half dollar on December 28.

Provenance: *Los Angeles Signature* (Heritage, 7/2009), lot 513. NGC ID# 23FW, PCGS# 4868

1916 Barber Dime, MS67
Top-Grade Last-Year Coin



98371 1916 MS67 NGC. CAC. The wreath elements on this amazing Superb Gem show pinpoint definition, while Liberty's headband exhibits slight blending on several olive leaves. Each side is beautifully toned in speckled yellow, orange, blue, green, and purple patina, accounting for the CAC sticker. Frosty luster abounds over immaculately preserved surfaces. A coin of unsurpassed technical quality with eye appeal to match.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports nine submissions in MS67. PCGS accounts for 12 MS67 (two MS67+) and there are none finer at either service. Six in MS67 have the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: The cessation of Barber dime production coincided with the release of the new Winged Liberty design on October 30, 1916. A total of 18.4 million Barber dimes had been struck to that point in the year, making this final-year issue plentiful in most grades. However, the 1916 is a true rarity in such remarkable condition.

Provenance: *Purchased from Northeast Numismatics* (8/2005). NGC ID# 23FY, PCGS# 4870

PROOF BARBER DIMS

1893 Dime, PR66 Cameo
Attractive Toning, Bold Contrast



98372 1893 PR66 Cameo PCGS. The surfaces are deeply patinated in shades of rose, lavender, blue, and orange, yet the attractive toning fails to diminish the bold field-device contrast. Light marks from the draw bench (as made) cut diagonally across the obverse from T1 in STATES to A2 in AMERICA.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 24 in PR66 (one PR66+) Cameo and 10 finer. NGC accounts for seven in this grade with 16 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Strong collector demand for first-year 1892 proofs was unsustainable, and proof production dropped by nearly 500 coins to 792 pieces in 1893. Walter Breen (1989) and David Lawrence (1991) report several overdate varieties, and this piece shows slight doubling within the upper loops of 89.

Provenance: *David Queller and Family Collection (Stack's, 3/1997), lot 136. NGC ID# 23G4, PCGS# 84877*

1897 Dime, Dazzling PR68
Among the Finest Certified



98373 1897 PR68 NGC. A melange of olive-green, russet, and ice-blue toning graces the obverse. The reverse patina is absolutely mesmerizing with electric-blue and red-violet shades that cede to amber and coppery marginal hues. This PR68 representative is as close to perfect as one may hope to find for the issue. Housed in a former generation holder.

Population Data (9/15): Five PR68 examples and three comparable proofs are the top-graded submissions at NGC and PCGS, respectively.

Heritage Commentary: The 1897 may be an available issue with a mintage of 731 proofs, but the production total has little bearing on importance of this rare PR68 offering. Only a select group of examples survive in this remarkable state, and advanced specialists should seize the opportunity to acquire one of the finest certified pieces.

Provenance: *Sotheby's (11/1999), lot 147. NGC ID# 23GA, PCGS# 4881*

1898 Barber Dime, PR68
Unimprovable Preservation and Eye Appeal



98374 1898 PR68 NGC. CAC. Two traits characterize this incredible PR68 Barber dime: flawless surface preservation and gorgeous multicolor toning. Even under close scrutiny, this piece fails to reveal a single mark of consequence. Naturally, there are a few microscopic flecks, but they are fully concealed beneath a veil of electric-blue, sea-green, magenta, and peach-orange patina. Encapsulated in a prior generation holder with a green CAC approval sticker.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of six PR68 submissions at NGC, and there is a single PR68 coin at PCGS. Neither service has seen a finer representative.

Heritage Commentary: Collectors with an eye for quality — technical and aesthetic — will surely appreciate this spectacular Barber dime. The Philadelphia Mint struck 735 proofs in 1898, and the mintage and survival rates are fairly typical for the series. However, the essentially unimprovable condition and eye appeal of this Superb Gem proof set it apart from its competitors.

Provenance: Sotheby's (11/1999), lot 148. NGC ID# 23GB, PCGS# 4882

1899 Dime, PR66
Ex: Childs Family Collection
Second Auction Appearance in 116 Years



98375 1899 PR66 PCGS. CAC. Ex: The Childs Collection. Rich obverse patina includes shades of purple, blue, and russet, while the reverse is mostly untuned with a light veil of golden-tan coloration. This proof dime was carefully preserved in the Childs Collection for 100 years before Gene Gardner acquired it, and each side shows only a few scattered contact marks in concert with the grade. Excellent eye appeal.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS records 31 in PR66 and 30 finer, including one PR68. NGC reports 31 in PR66 and 33 submissions finer — the finest two in PR68.

Heritage Commentary: The Childs Family Collection contained a host of seemingly impossible rarities, including the finest known 1804 dollar (PR68 PCGS), and the family's set of proof Barber dimes is one of the finest ever assembled. Walter Henry Childs, who was active between 1870 and 1906, purchased the coins directly from the Mint. Remarkably, this is only the second time this fantastic Premium Gem proof has appeared at auction in 116 years.

Provenance: Purchased from the Mint by Walter H. Childs; Childs Family Collection (Bowers and Merena, 8/1999), lot 218. NGC ID# 23GC, PCGS# 4883

1902 Barber Dime, Lovely PR66
Indigo-Blue, Rose, and Golden Patina



98376 1902 PR66 PCGS. This Premium Gem proof shows indigo-blue, rose, and golden patina covering surfaces that show a significant amount of depth in the fields, although the field-device contrast is minimal. The motifs display razor-sharp definition, as expected of a proof of this vintage, and each side is devoid of pedigree identifying marks.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS counts 20 pieces in PR66 and eight submissions in PR67. There are 26 Premium Gem proofs submitted at NGC with 17 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Starting in 1902 and continuing through 1915, proof design elements were changed from frosty to semibrilliant in appearance, hence the limited contrast on this splendid representative. The change also explains the rarity of Cameo representatives from that era.

Provenance: *Americana Sale (Stack's, 1/2006)*, lot 1639. NGC ID# 23GF, PCGS# 4886

1903 Dime, PR67
Tied for Finest at PCGS



98377 1903 PR67 PCGS. Blended hues of pumpkin-gold, mint-green, lavender, and blue adorn the surfaces of this nearly flawless Superb Gem proof. Two minuscule milk spots on the reverse serve as pedigree identifiers, as there are no readily apparent marks on either side.

Population Data (9/15): This Superb Gem is tied with nine other submissions for finest at PCGS. NGC reports 12 in PR67 (two PR67 ★) with a single PR68 ★ finer (also part of the Gardner Collection). That coin, lot 98333 in our Gardner Part II Signature (Heritage, 10/2014), realized \$12,925.

Heritage Commentary: In PR65 condition or better, CoinFacts ranks the 1903 tied for third-rarest among proof Barber dimes alongside the 1904, 1907, 1908, 1910, 1913, and 1914. Registry collectors should capitalize on the chance to obtain this top-graded PCGS representative, as the opportunity may not arise again for some time.

Provenance: *Purchased from Rare Coins of New Hampshire (1/2007)*. NGC ID# 23GG, PCGS# 4887

1904 Dime, PR68
Seemingly Pristine, Tied for Finest



98378 1904 PR68 NGC. Mottled blue, rose, olive, and amber toning shrouds the partly brilliant obverse, while the reverse shows somewhat more vibrant shades of electric-blue, turquoise, and apricot-orange. Seemingly pristine in every regard. Housed in a “no line fatty” holder.

Population Data (9/15): This PR68 example is tied with a PR68 ★ coin at NGC, and PCGS shows a single submission in the same grade. One of the finest certified representatives.

Heritage Commentary: Proofs were purchased specifically for numismatic purposes, so it is unsurprising to find them in high grades; some pieces inevitably found their way into circulation as well. However, locating a proof in this virtually unimprovable condition never fails to amaze. From a mintage of 670 proofs.

Provenance: *Superior* (3/2000), lot 296. NGC ID# 23GH, PCGS# 4888

1913 Dime, High-End PR66
Green Label Holder, CAC-Endorsed



98379 1913 PR66 PCGS. CAC. Rose-gray, sea-green, blue, purple, and gold mingle over the surfaces of this eye-appealing Premium Gem proof. The obverse is lighter in tone than the reverse, but each side is equally attractive. Minimal contact marks are scarcely apparent without a lens. Certified in a green label holder.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 14 submitted in PR66 (one PR66+) with six finer. NGC reports 15 in PR66 examples with 14 in higher grades, including one in PR69. This PR66 is among six so graded with the CAC approval, and five are finer there.

Heritage Commentary: Breen's *Proof Encyclopedia* notes that this issue (622 proofs struck) was “much hoarded,” but the current certified population data actually indicate it to be among the more elusive dates above the Gem level. PCGS ranks it tied for third in PR65 or better among all proof Barber dimes.

Provenance: *Empire State Collection* (Stack's, 1/1997), lot 284. NGC ID# 23GU, PCGS# 4897

MERCURY DIME

1936 Dime, MS68 Full Bands
Top-Notch Type Coin, None Certified Finer



98380 1936 MS68 Full Bands PCGS. CAC. Sunburst-orange toning with glints of red-violet and jade-green clings to the peripheries, leaving the centers of this MS68 Full Bands Mercury dime almost entirely brilliant with glimpses of delicate rose color. Frosty luster adds to the visual appeal, and every design element is fully rendered.

Population Data (9/15): There are 18 submitted in MS68 (two in MS68+) Full Bands at PCGS. NGC reports nine in MS68 Full Bands (one MS68 ★). Only five MS68 Full Bands coins have a green CAC approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: This is an ideal candidate for type collectors seeking the finest possible example for their sets. A total of 87.5 million Winged Liberty dimes were manufactured at Philadelphia in 1936, and the date is collectible right through MS67 condition. Only in the lofty MS68 Full Bands grade does the issue become rare.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (2/2012). NGC ID# 23JF, PCGS# 4999

PROOF MERCURY DIMES

1936 Dime, Beautifully Toned PR66
First Proof Issue in the Series



98381 1936 PR66 PCGS. CAC. Only the upper-right obverse maintains its brilliance, while the remaining surfaces boast wonderful purple, magenta, sunburst-orange, and golden patina. Minor flecks are scattered over each side, but they fail to diminish the eye appeal.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS has seen 65 finer submissions.

Heritage Commentary: The year 1936 marks the resumption of proof coinage after a two-decade-long hiatus. A total of 4,130 Mercury dime proofs were made. Comparable Premium Gem proofs are scarce, especially with such beautiful toning.

Provenance: Purchased from Aspen Park Rare Coins (11/2006). NGC ID# 27DG, PCGS# 5071

1937 Mercury Dime, PR68
Colorfully Toned, Top-Graded Example



98382 1937 PR68 NGC. Two distinct color palettes characterize each side of this near-flawless proof. The obverse displays rings of rainbow toning with a brilliant center, while the reverse is almost completely cobalt-blue with splashes of mauve and rose hues. A splendid Mercury dime proof, encapsulated in a former generation holder.

Population Data (9/15): The finest include 40 PR68 grading events at NGC (two in PR68+, two in PR68 ★) with one PR69 ★ finer, and 30 PR68 (one PR68+) submissions at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: This second-year proof issue was struck to the extent of 5,756 pieces. Examples are widely available up to PR67 condition, but the number of PR68 representatives at both leading grading services drops dramatically. Fans of colorful toning should certainly keep a close eye on this lot and consider liberal bids.

Provenance: *Purchased from Aspen Park Rare Coins (5/2006).* NGC ID# 27DH, PCGS# 5072

1941 Dime, PR68
Delightful Coloration



98383 1941 PR68 NGC. CAC. This Superb Gem proof Mercury dime is attractively framed in golden-orange, purple, and rose iridescence with minimally toned interiors. A tiny lamination in the left reverse field is the only break in the otherwise flawless surfaces of this dazzling specimen. Encased in a "no line fatty" holder.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 60 in PR68 (one PR68+, 11 PR68 ★). PCGS shows 24 PR68 grading events. Neither firm reports a finer example. Fifteen in PR68 have the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: The remarkable condition and eye-catching patina that define this marvelous Winged Liberty proof are immensely desirable qualities in their own right. In tandem, however, they make this top-graded specimen a must-have for either a high-grade date or proof set.

Provenance: *Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 6/2004), lot 8167; purchased from Aspen Park Rare Coins (2/2012).* NGC ID# 27DM, PCGS# 5076

1942 Dime, PR68
Spectacular Multicolor Patina



98384 1942 PR68 NGC. CAC. Elegant golden toning appears at the rims, while turquoise patina, more intense on the reverse, covers the centers. Additional accents of lime-green, orange, and rose occur over each side. Phenomenally appealing and deeply mirrored.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports two finer submissions, and PCGS has seen only one higher-graded example.

Heritage Commentary: The 1942 claims the highest proof mintage in the series with a production of 22,329 pieces. The availability of top-notch examples is correspondingly high, and PR68 representatives can be found with minimal searching. However, few proofs are as spectacularly toned as the one offered here, and finer examples are prohibitively rare. Sure to be a highlight in any collection.

Provenance: FUN Signature (*Heritage*, 1/2007), lot 2805; purchased from *Aspen Park Rare Coins* (11/2007). NGC ID# 27DN, PCGS# 5077

TWENTY CENT PIECES

1875 Twenty Cent, Near-Gem
Prooflike Surfaces, Boldly Defined



98385 1875 MS64 PCGS. BF-1, R.1. Deep cobalt-blue toning dominates each side with complementary hues of rose and mint-green. The devices are fully brought up, and the surfaces are decidedly prooflike in appearance. Lightly abraded with a small pedigree marker on the 8 digit.

Variety: BF-1, R.1. The 1 in the date is positioned right of the shield point.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS enumerates 64 in MS64 (three in MS64+) with 28 finer submissions.

Heritage Commentary: Twenty cent pieces were struck at Philadelphia, Carson City, and San Francisco in the denomination's first year of production. The S-mint pieces are far and away the most available of the three issues. The *Guide Book* gives a mintage of 38,500 1875-P twenty cent coins, while PCGS provides a total of 36,910 examples struck. The production total may be uncertain; however, survivors as fine as this are unquestionably scarce, and higher-graded examples are rarely seen. This particular example was listed as a "Choice Brilliant Proof" when it last sold as part of the James A. Stack, Sr. Collection in 1995. It has since been designated as a circulation strike by PCGS.

Provenance: James A. Stack, Sr. Collection (*Stack's*, 3/1995), lot 145. NGC ID# 23R5, PCGS# 5296

1875 Twenty Cent, MS66
Fully Struck, Low-Mintage Issue



98386 1875 MS66 NGC. BF-1, R.1. Each side displays bright, frosty luster and rich orange-russet peripheral shadings that generate exceptional eye appeal. The strike is full — an uncommon trait among business strike twenty cent pieces of any date. The surfaces are devoid of distracting abrasions.

Variety: BF-1, R.1. This is the most frequently seen variety, identified by the date position and diagnostic die lines near the eagle's wings and leg feathers.

Population Data (9/15): This is among seven submissions in MS66 at NGC with five finer. PCGS counts six pieces in MS66 and three finer.

Heritage Commentary: The Philadelphia Mint accounted for only two business strike and four proof deliveries in the short-lived twenty cent series of 1875-1878. The first-year 1875 was produced to the extent of 38,500 circulation strikes, a far lower total than that recorded for the 1875-S (1.1 million coins). While this Premium Gem example should be of obvious importance to advanced specialists, it will also elicit strong bids from better-date type collectors.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2003), lot 6583; purchased from Jason Carter (3/2003). NGC ID# 23R5, PCGS# 5296

1875-S Twenty Cent, MS66
Excellent Preservation



98387 1875-S MS66 PCGS. BF-13. This Premium Gem 1875-S twenty cent piece shows slate-gray and cinnamon patina over a dove-gray base. A few of the stars lack central details and the claws are a bit lightly struck, but the impression is fairly good overall. Excellent preservation puts this piece far ahead of most survivors of its ilk, despite the tiny patch of contact marks below OF on the reverse.

Variety: BF-13, misplaced 8 high in the denticles, "filled S/S" per Lane Brunner and John Frost, and die cracks encircling many of the peripheral letters. This example also shows a straight die line from the eagle's left (facing) wing to left thigh. A pair of arcing marks below connect the lower-left wing to the left claw.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 64 submissions in MS66 (four in MS66+) with five finer. NGC shows 54 in MS66 (one in MS66+, three in MS66 ★) and nine finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1875-S twenty cent issue is not rare but is quite popular for type collectors. It has by far the largest mintage of this short-lived series, at 1.15 million pieces (the 2016 *Guide Book* without explanation puts it at 680,000 coins) and is consequently the most available.

Provenance: Pittsburgh Signature (8/2004), lot 5899. NGC ID# 23R7, PCGS# 5298

PROOF TWENTY CENT PIECE

1878 Twenty Cent, PR64
Lovely Concentric Patina



98388 1878 PR64 PCGS. BF-1. Concentric toning appears on each side of this near-Gem proof 1878 twenty cent in a ring of pale aqua nearest the rims, working inward through blue, violet, rose, and gold, with some untuned silver areas in the centers, the toning deeper on the obverse. An attractive example of this last-year issue despite a few light field hairlines that determine the grade.

Variety: BF-1, the sole die pair used to strike this proof-only issue of 760 pieces, showing a raised die lump right of the shield border. On the reverse, the leaf pair above N in CENTS is disconnected from the branch.

Population Data (9/15): Several dozen examples are finer at NGC and PCGS combined, including some Cameo pieces.

Heritage Commentary: “Not with a bang but a whimper” seems an overstatement for these coins, unpopular and unneeded to begin with, and apparently only launched due to political maneuvering on the part of Western silver-mining interests. But the real kiss of death was the size and design, both uncomfortably close to the contemporaneous Seated quarter and guaranteed to provide an instant 20% loss (or 25% gain, depending on which side of the counter one was on) whenever so confused.

Provenance: Stack's (10/1996), lot 214. NGC ID# 27H5, PCGS# 5306

EARLY QUARTERS

1806/5 Quarter, B-1, AU58
Bold Overdate, *Guide Book* Variety



98389 1806/5 B-1, R.2, AU58 PCGS. CAC. The boldly showing overdate and the defective T in LIBERTY diagnose this popular *Guide Book* variety. Lustrous surfaces are tan-gold and brownish-gray with some silvery recessed areas remaining. Light die clashing shows on each side.

Variety: B-1, R.2, the overdate obverse. On the reverse, the C in the denomination is embedded in the tail feathers. The reverse is clashed through OF and clashing shows beneath the bust on the obverse.

Population Data (9/15): For the 1806/5 overdate, PCGS reports seven in AU58 and 17 finer, the finest a sole MS66 piece shown on CoinFacts. NGC shows five in AU58 and 11 finer.

Heritage Commentary: For the 1806 date, the B-1 (1806/5 overdate), the B-2, B-3, and B-9 are the “go to” varieties to represent it, as all of the other six varieties are very scarce to very rare.

Provenance: Stack's (12/1997), lot 2179. NGC ID# 23RE, PCGS# 38938 Base PCGS# 5315

1806 B-2 Quarter, Toned MS63
Seldom-Seen Variety Any Finer



98390 1806 B-2, R.2, MS63 NGC. Rose, mauve, and copper-violet hues contrast against untuned silvery areas on this Select Mint State 1806 quarter, showing some scattered marks and scrapes along with die clashes on each side. Good luster remains on each side, although the strike through the centers is a tad soft on each side.

Variety: B-2, R.2. An available variety for the year. The feet of 1, I, and T are defective, and star 13 is distant from the bust. The reverse shows C2 near the tail and touching A3. Clashing shows below the bust and behind the hair near star 2, and on the reverse from the central cloud through OF.

Population Data (9/15): For the 1806 date, PCGS reports only eight submitted in MS63 and 17 finer — surprisingly low numbers, given the R.2 rarity rating. For all varieties NGC reports 11 in MS63 (one MS63+) and 21 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The Rea-Koenings-Haroutunian census in *Early Quarter Dollars* by Rea, Peterson, et al. identifies only three examples of the B-2 clearly finer than the present piece, which is one of six in MS63 listed.

Provenance: *Lindesmith-LaRiviere Collections (Bowers and Merena, 11/1999)*, lot 1186. NGC ID# 23RD, PCGS# 38928 Base PCGS# 5314

1806 Quarter, AU Details
B-10, Well-Defined and Attractive



98391 1806 B-10, R.5 — Improperly Cleaned — NGC Details. AU. The highest points of the design, including the stars, hair curls, drapery, and feathers show light blending from circulation. However, the device detail remains crisp. NGC notes an improper cleaning, but that must have occurred long ago. The surfaces have since retuned in pleasing gunmetal-blue and steel-gray patina. Well-centered with few abrasions and minimal hairlines.

Variety: B-10, R.5. This rare die marriage is attributed by the perfect T in LIBERTY below and close to the R, the left serif of the first A in AMERICA over the second feather, and the low second S in STATES. This is an early die state without die cracks or crumbling near the rims.

Heritage Commentary: Ten die marriages comprising six obverse dies and eight reverse dies are known for the 1806, which claims a mintage of 206,124 coins. B-10 is among the rarest die pairs for the date, and while early quarter expert Steve M. Tompkins comments that the variety “can be found in most grades,” he adds that it “is much more rare if found in AU or above condition.”

Provenance: W.R. Walling Collection (*Stack's*, 3/1996), lot 314.

1807 Quarter, B-1, Boldly Struck AU58
Last Quarters Minted Until 1815



98392 1807 B-1, R.2, AU58 PCGS. CAC. Deep brownish-mauve patina resides on each side of this scarcely circulated 1807 quarter. The strike through Liberty's hair and the central devices on the reverse is bold, although minor softness shows on some of the obverse star centers.

Variety: B-1, R.2. All the digits in the date are perfectly formed, nicely rounded, and well-spaced. Stars 1 and 2 are distant. Star 1 is twice as far from the curl as star 13 is from the bust. The dentils are missing from star 7 to star 8. The reverse shows the top of C in the denomination embedded in the tail. Bold die clashing shows on both sides, and die cracks on the reverse run from 2 to UNI and from the field, parallel to the rim left of ST through those letters.

Population Data (9/15): For the date, PCGS reports 15 in AU58 (one AU58+) and 38 finer. NGC shows 11 AU58 and 33 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Only two varieties exist for the year, both common (but the B-2 a bit less so), and those 228,000-plus pieces would be the last Bust quarters struck until the Capped Bust coins debuted in 1815.

Provenance: *Stack's* (1/1997), lot 533. NGC ID# 23RF, PCGS# 38939 Base PCGS# 5316

BUST QUARTERS

1815 B-1 Quarter, Sharply Struck MS64
Debut Capped Bust Quarter Issue



98393 1815 B-1, R.1, MS64 PCGS. This near-Gem 1815 quarter boasts beaming luster on surfaces that show an incredibly sharp strike on the central details of Liberty's hair and the peripheral stars on the obverse. The reverse strike is quite nice as well, and few abrasions of any sort are present.

Variety: B-1, R.1, sole dies for the year. The date is wide and evenly spaced, with star 1 pointing between drapery folds. The reverse shield shows three-line stripes with some irregularities always present. Both sides are boldly clashed in this later die state, particularly at the lower reverse.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 17 in MS64 and seven finer. NGC shows 13 in MS64 (one MS64+) and 18 finer, excluding counterstamped examples.

Heritage Commentary: The 1815 Capped Bust quarters were the first of the new design struck in this denomination, although the Capped Bust design would debut on dimes in 1809 and on half dollars in 1807. The year 1815 is distinguished as the only year in Mint history in which no cents were struck (at least, bearing the date 1815; some 1816-dated large cents may have been struck in late 1815), and no half cents, half dimes, or dimes were made. Only 635 half eagles were struck in gold, and today they are major rarities.

The source and meaning of the "E" and "L" counterstamps frequently seen on Bust quarters dated 1815 continue to elude numismatists, but they are fodder for some ingenious theories and quite collectible.

Provenance: *Empire State Collection* (*Stack's*, 1/1997), lot 534. NGC ID# 23RG, PCGS# 38942 Base PCGS# 5321

1818 B-8 Quarter, MS62
Struck From Late-State Dies



98394 1818 B-8, R.3, MS62 NGC. CAC. Somewhat muted mint luster appears over deep rose-mauve surfaces accented with pale aqua on this nicely preserved and well-struck Mint State Bust quarter. The eye appeal is quite strong, and few abrasions appear for the grade.

Variety: B-8, R.3. The obverse shows three dentils closely spaced under the first 1. The reverse shows E in UNITED recut over a T, and OF and AMERICA are separated (diagnostics to distinguish from the similar B-10 reverse die). **Die State:** "Ear bars" die clashing shows on the obverse. The late-state reverse shows a die crack through the lowest pair of olive leaves and a chip on one leaf.

Population Data (9/15): The Condition Census for the B-8 variety in *Early Quarter Dollars* shows two proofs followed by four MS64, two MS63, and one MS62, with the present coin not obviously among those accounted for.

Heritage Commentary: The enormous-for-the-time mintage of more than 360,000 Bust quarters dated 1818 breaks down into 10 die marriages using five obverse (including the 1818/5) and seven reverse dies. The B-8 is a middling rarity among them, neither particularly rare nor particularly common.

Provenance: Dr. Alfred R. Globus-Ben Corson Collections (*Stack's*, 3/1999), lot 608. NGC ID# 23RH, PCGS# 38949 Base PCGS# 5322

1819 Large 9 Quarter, B-2, MS63
Last Traded in 2004



98395 1819 Large 9, B-2, R.3, MS63 NGC. The dove-gray centers show considerable reflective qualities and deepen to golden-rose near the rims on each side. The surfaces show a decent strike overall, despite light weakness on a couple of star centers and R1 in the motto on the reverse. Excellent eye appeal shows throughout, and there are no marks of consequence.

Variety: B-2, R.3. One of two Large 9 die pairings for the year, along with the B-1, which is nonetheless struck from a different obverse die. On the B-2, star 1 points to a drapery fold, and the left edge of the lowest curl is over the left edge of the 9. On the reverse, NITED is progressively lower, with the final D quite low.

Population Data (9/15): For the year 1819, NGC reports five MS63 and six finer, the finest a lone MS66. Three examples of the B-2 are NGC-certified in Mint State, one each in MS61, MS63, and MS64. Given the newness of variety attribution, attributed-variety population data are of limited usefulness. *Early Quarter Dollars'* census lists this piece as one of three in MS63, behind an MS65 and an MS64.

Heritage Commentary: Four die marriages for the year 1819 break down neatly into two die pairings each for the Small 9 (also called Normal 9) and Large 9 *Guide Book* varieties.

Provenance: Medio and Da Costa Gomez Collections (*American Numismatic Rarities*, 6/2004) lot 2696. NGC ID# 23RK, PCGS# 38957 Base PCGS# 5326

1819 Small 9 Quarter, AU58
B-3, Beautiful Rim Toning



98396 1819 Small 9, B-3, R.1, AU58 PCGS. CAC. Rose-gold centers glow with considerable luster and cede to lovely aqua, jade, and amber-copper patina near the rims on each side of this lightly circulated 1819 Small 9 quarter. Despite the rather deep color, the generous luster and relatively unmarked surfaces show a high quotient of eye appeal.

Variety: B-3, R.1. Stars 1 and 7 are quite near the bust, star 1 pointing to a drapery fold and star 7 to the forecurl. Star 13 is near a rear curl. On the reverse, the E is lower than the adjacent T and D. The T's in STATES appear taller than the other letters. Two period appear after 25 C, nearing appearing to be a colon. **Die State:** A crack runs vertically from the rim through star 11 and into the field before Liberty's profile.

Population Data (9/15): For the Small 9 1819 quarters, PCGS shows seven in AU58, surpassed by 20 submissions. This is one of only two Small 9 quarters in this grade at CAC.

Heritage Commentary: Attributed varieties are still “new” to certification services, and most varieties are still unattributed by those services. This piece would rank about in 10th place according to the more-helpful Condition Census in *Early Quarter Dollars*. The relative availability of this variety and its status as a *Guide Book*-listed pairing may make this piece appealing to type collectors as well as Bust quarter specialists.

Provenance: *Queller and Family Sale (Stack's, 3/1997)*, lot 406. NGC ID# 23RK, PCGS# 402646 Base PCGS# 5325

1820 Medium 0 Quarter, B-3, MS66
None Finer for the Year at PCGS



98397 1820 Medium 0, B-3, R.3, MS66 PCGS. CAC. Rose-gray patina complements underlying dove-gray base color, with considerable luster visible on each side of this nicely preserved and highly attractive Premium Gem 1820 quarter. Abrasions are negligible, as expected at so high a grade level. A couple of small ticks on Liberty's cap are minor. The strike is uniformly sharp throughout all star centers and Liberty's hair, and the eagle and all peripheral elements are similarly bold on the reverse. Certified in a green-label holder with the CAC green approval sticker.

Variety: B-3, R.3. Star 8 is far from the rear of the cap, while stars 1, 7, and 13 are all fairly close. The obverse is cracked from the 8 through stars 1-7. The 25 is low with 5 and C quite far apart, the 5 rotated clockwise.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports seven examples of the 1820 quarter in MS66 with none finer — four Large 0, two Small 0, and one Medium 0. For the year, NGC shows three submitted in MS66 and two MS67 finer. The certified variety populations bear little relevance, given the existence of so many unattributed examples at those services (such as the present coin).

Heritage Commentary: The *Guide Book* lists only two varieties for 1820, the Small 0 and Large 0, but specialists subdivide the five known die pairings into Small 0 (B-4 and B-5), Medium 0 (B-3), and Large 0 (B-1 and B-2). If the Medium 0 B-3 variety ever makes it into the *Guide Book* as a separate variety as well, it could spell good things for high-grade examples such as this piece. And in any case (and much sooner), this Premium Gem's broad eye appeal will bring a great deal of pleasure to its new owner.

Provenance: *Torok and Sonnhelm Collections (Bowers and Merena, 9/1998)*, lot 2005. NGC ID# 23RL, PCGS# 38962 Base PCGS# 515284

1822 Quarter, B-1, Toned MS62
More Available of Two Varieties for the Year



98398 1822 B-1, R.2, MS62 PCGS. CAC. Rose centers on each side transition into deep violet, mauve, and aqua patina nearer the rims on this attractive early quarter. A few stray contact marks on the profile of Liberty are grade-consistent but not terribly overt. The strike is weak on several of the star centers and on the eagle's claws on the reverse, but more than acceptable elsewhere.

Variety: B-1, R.2. One of only two varieties for the year, the other being the B-2 with the famous and rare 25/50 reverse. The two varieties share the 1822-dated obverse die.

Population Data (9/15): For the year 1822, PCGS reports nine submitted in MS62 and 10 finer. NGC shows five in MS62 and 11 finer, as well as four Prooflike Mint State submissions from MS61 to MS63.

Heritage Commentary: Only 64,080 quarters were struck in 1822, and given the far-greater rarity of the 1822 B-2 25/50 quarters, most of the mintage appears to have been the B-1 Normal Date quarters.

Provenance: *Queller and Family Sale (Stack's, 3/1997), lot 409.* NGC ID# 4E52, PCGS# 38969 Base PCGS# 5332

1828 B-1 Quarter, AU58
Target for Type Collectors



98399 1828 B-1, R.1, AU58 PCGS. CAC. Both sides of this near-Mint State 1828 quarter are enveloped in lush rose-gray patina with accents of pale blue nearest the rims. A couple of small abrasions show on Liberty's cheek and neck amid flowing luster. Another minor contact mark appears above star 2, and a thin scrape below the forward bust. Both sides are sharply struck, but the reverse is better-preserved.

Variety: B-1, R.1. The curl base 2 in the denomination on the reverse is sufficient to identify the die pairing, as all three known for the year share the same 1828-dated obverse die. Recutting appears on several of the obverse stars.

Population Data (9/15): For the year 1828, PCGS reports 13 submissions in AU58 with 41 finer, the finest a single MS65+. The population data of certified varieties mean little, as so many examples remain unattributed at the leading services.

Heritage Commentary: The 1828 B-1 die marriage is far more available than either the B-2 (square base 2) or B-3 (25/50) varieties, making it the obvious target of type or date-set collectors.

Provenance: *Dr. Alfred R. Globus-Ben Corson Collections (Stack's, 3/1999), lot 611.* NGC ID# 23RV, PCGS# 38976 Base PCGS# 5342

1828 B-3 Quarter, 25 Over 50C, MS62

Ex: Dr. Juan XII Suros

An Absolute and Conditional Rarity



98400 1828 25 Over 50C, B-3, R.5, MS62 PCGS. The silver centers show traces of rose that deepen near the rims to cinnamon and slate-gray patina. Few abrasions appear for the grade. A small patch of planchet roughness appears above the eagle's left (facing) wing in the field, and strike softness shows on some of the reverse high points such as the claws and olive leaves. Quite nice for the grade.

Variety: B-3, R.5. Star 1 is closer to the bust than the dentils, and stars 7, 9, 0, 11, and 13 are recut. The reverse is the 25/50 reverse that was carried over from its earlier use in 1822.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports three submissions of the 1828 25/50 quarter in MS62 and two finer, both MS63. NGC shows an unusual distribution of Mint State submissions — one each in MS61, MS63, and MS67 ★. This piece is listed fourth in the Rea-Koenigs-Haroutunian Census in *Early Quarter Dollars*, behind the Green-Newman coin (there called "MS65") and two pieces in MS63.

Heritage Commentary: This "overdenomination" error last traded publicly in the famed collection of Dr. Juan XII Suros, touted at the time by Superior as "the most complete collection of United States overdate coinage ever assembled." Among other treasures in collection were an 1817/4 half dollar, proof 1823/2 and 1827/3 quarters, a 1799/8 cent, and 1825/1 and 1825/4 half eagles.

This piece traded at a price in the Suros Collection that, with the benefit of nearly 20 years' hindsight, seems like a song today. Given the absolute and conditional rarity of this piece and its variety, dedicated numismatists will bring their "A game" to the bidding for this lot. We suspect that the next owner will have to pay far more handsomely to acquire this prize.

Gene Gardner also briefly owned the former Eric P. Newman example of this date, the aforementioned MS67 ★ NGC example — a "dream coin" for most collectors.

Provenance: Dr. Juan XII Suros Collection (*Superior Galleries*, 2/1999), lot 142. NGC ID# 23RV, PCGS# 38979 Base PCGS# 5343

1832 B-2 Quarter, Richly Toned MS64



98401 1832 B-2, R.2, MS64 NGC. Intermingled rose, silver, gold, blue, and medium-gray show on both sides of this highly lustrous near-Gem, the blue predominating more on the reverse. Each side is sharply struck and nicely preserved. Minor strike weakness occurs on the lower reverse, on the branch and eagle's claws. A beautiful coin with rich luster and powerful eye appeal.

Variety: B-2, R.2. The two varieties for the year share a common obverse, with the reverse on the B-2 showing the 2 in the denomination mostly left of the fletchings. The reverse shows large letters recut over small letters, the anomaly visible on several letters of UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. A small die crack connects stars 13 and 12.

Population Data (9/15): For the year 1832, NGC shows 16 submissions in MS64 (one MS64+) with four finer — three MS65 and one MS66. PCGS reports 13 in MS64 and three MS65 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Even though this is a supposedly "available" variety, collectors will have a difficult time finding a higher-grade example than this exceptional piece — or a nicer-looking one, for that matter. The MS65 NGC ex: Newman example brought \$18,800 in our November 2013 Signature auction, lot 33351.

Provenance: Purchased privately from David Lawrence (11/2001). NGC ID# 23RX, PCGS# 38988 Base PCGS# 5351

1833 B-1 Quarter, MS62
Late-State Dies



98402 1833 B-1, R.2, MS62 PCGS. CAC. The rose-gold and gray centers cede to moderate aqua patina around the rims on each side, showing good luster and a few small abrasions on each side consistent with the grade.

Variety: B-1, R.2. The period following the denomination is sufficient to determine between the B-1 and B-2, the only two varieties known for the year, which share a common obverse die.

Die State: The obverse shows "ear bar" clashes and die rust that is heavier near the rim. The reverse shows die rust or pitting around the denomination, between the lower two arrowheads, and around E(D) and STA.

Population Data (9/15): For the year, PCGS shows eight in this grade and 21 finer, while NGC shows seven and 34 in comparable grades.

Heritage Commentary: Besides the period in the denomination present on this variety, the B-1 can be distinguished from the B-2 (which lacks the period) by the three-line stripes in the reverse shield. The B-2 has two-line stripes, the only such reverse in the Bust quarter series.

Provenance: *Earlier in the James A. Stack Collection; 65th Anniversary Sale (Stack's, 10/2000) lot 697. NGC ID# 23RY, PCGS# 38989 Base PCGS# 5352*

1833 B-2 Quarter, MS64
Repunched OF AM Reverse
Guide Book Variety



98403 1833 B-2, FS-901, R.2, MS64 NGC. CAC. The well-preserved surfaces show attractive deep gray and gold patina accented by lilac and blue iridescence. Frosty luster and a well-impressed strike produce sharp design details and good eye appeal. Certified in an old-style NGC "no line fatty" holder.

Variety: B-2, R.1. FS-901. Only two varieties are known for the 1833 quarter dollars, either with or without a period after 25 C. This is the variety without the period. The reverse shows doubling on OF AM. The doubling on O connects it with F, and an extra A appears left of the subsequent A in AMERICA. A late die state with extensive die rust on the obverse and heavy "ear bar" clash marks.

Population Data (9/15): For the year 1833, NGC reports 16 submitted in MS64 and four finer. PCGS shows nine MS64 and three finer. One example each of the B-2 is certified MS66 at NGC and at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: Both the B-1 and B-2 varieties (the B-2 is frequently listed as O/F) make it into the *Guide Book*, the B-2 showing as a tad better in the higher Mint State grades, although there is not a great deal of price differentiation. The B-1 is also rated R.2.

Provenance: *Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 9/2006), lot 1506. NGC ID# 4E5J, PCGS# 38990 Base PCGS# 5352*

1834 B-4 Quarter, MS66
Marvelous Patina and Preservation



98404 1834 B-4, R.1, MS66 NGC. A profusion of silver, gold, violet, mauve, and lavender tinged with jade further enlivens lustrous surfaces that are extremely well-preserved and equally well-struck. A loupe is needed to observe tiny ticks on Liberty's cheek, but the top-notch strike and superb eye appeal more than compensate.

Variety: B-4, R.1. The left edge of the curl is over the left side of the 4. The eagle has no tongue, and the second T in STATES is low. Extensive die cracks encircle portions of the reverse periphery, and minor cracks on the obverse.

Population Data (9/15): For the year 1834, NGC reports seven submissions in MS66 and two MS67 finer. The finest B-4 at NGC is a single MS66. The finest at PCGS are three MS66, one of them certified as a B-4.

Heritage Commentary: The obverse die was also used for marriages and remarriages of different reverse dies to create the 1834 B-3 and 1834 B-5 varieties, and specialists can track the progress of the various die cracks known via those matings.

Provenance: Purchased by Haig A. Koshkarian from Legend Numismatics (6/1997); Koshkarian Collection (*American Numismatic Rarities*, 3/2004) lot 63. NGC ID# 23RZ, PCGS# 38995 Base PCGS# 5353

1836 B-3 Quarter, Toned MS64
Late Die States on Both Sides



98405 1836 B-3, R.1, MS64 PCGS. Aqua, deep rose, and mauve patina occupies the obverse more fully than the reverse on this near-Gem, which shows similar colors on the reverse but with an open, untuned silver area at the center. Multiple noticeable die cracks appear on both sides, including one bisecting crack on the obverse. Great eye appeal and a sharp strike are hallmarks of this coin, despite the multiple interesting die cracks.

Variety: B-3, R.1. **Die State:** Late on both sides, although possibly not absolutely as late as those described in *Early Quarter Dollars*. Major obverse cracks include a bisecting crack from the rim through L to the ear-curls-shoulder and back to the rim left of star 13. A second large crack runs from the rim to star 1 to the forward bust and below the clasp. Several small cracks appear in the date digits, some connecting to the rim. The reverse shows an arcing crack from left of the 2, up across the shield to the area of ICA where it joins other small cracks.

Population Data (9/15): For the year 1836, PCGS shows six in MS64 (one MS64+) with one MS65 and one MS67 finer. NGC reports 16 in MS64 and none finer. The paucity of certified varieties makes those data of little utility.

Heritage Commentary: Die cracks on early Mint coinage are certainly not an extraordinary circumstance, but pieces such as this, in what is nearly a terminal die state, are especially treasured by some collectors and numismatic researchers.

Provenance: Purchased from Julian Leidman (11/2001). NGC ID# 23S3, PCGS# 39007 Base PCGS# 5355

1837 B-1 Quarter, MS65
Nicely Toned and Well-Preserved



98406 1837 B-1, R.3, MS65 PCGS. CAC. Ample luster radiates from surfaces toned in light to medium shades of sky-blue, bluish-purple, golden-orange, gray, and lime-green. This Gem shows a sharp strike except for softness in the star radials around the upper border. Both sides exhibit excellent preservation and great eye appeal.

Variety: B-1, R.3. The 7 in the date is centered under the left edge of the hair curl. The reverse eagle has no tongue, the 2 has a curl base, and the base of E in UNITED is below that of T. **Die State:** A die crack traverses the lower obverse border from the rim near star 2, through two points of star 1, the forward bust, above the date, and to stars 13 and 12. A crack runs from D through STATE to the dentils.

Population Data (9/15): Given the relative newness of variety certification at both PCGS and NGC, the population data for certified varieties remain of limited usefulness. For the year 1837, PCGS reports 13 submissions in MS65 and nine finer. According to the Rea-Koenings-Haroutunian Census in *Early Quarter Dollars*, this Gem B-1 would tie three other examples in first place for the variety.

Heritage Commentary: More than 252,000 quarters were reported struck in 1837, and six die pairs are known, with only the B-2 ranked in the "common" category. Although the authors of *Early Quarter Dollars* rate the B-1 as R.4, we at Heritage and Steve Tompkins in *Early United States Quarters* both rank the variety at R.3.

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2010), lot 2507; purchased from Legend Numismatics (1/2010). NGC ID# 4CZX, PCGS# 39010 Base PCGS# 5356

1837 B-4 Quarter, MS64
Late-State Dies
Condition Census Coin



98407 1837 B-4, R.3, MS64 PCGS. CAC. The surfaces on this lovely near-Gem 1837 quarter are quite well-struck and show attractive rose-gray patina with traces of olive-brown clustered around the rims. Some silver area remains in the central reverse. Both the strike and preservation are excellent on this coin, which shows late-state die cracks on both sides. There are no abrasions of note.

Variety: B-4, R.3. The left edge of the curl aligns with the right side of the 7. The reverse shows the branch tip even with the C in the denomination. **Die State:** Late, showing an long, fairly straight die crack that bisects the obverse, from the lower rim left of the date and right of star 1, diagonally upward through the bust, field, cheek, throat, cheek, curls, to the cap and back to the rim. The reverse shows a crack from D STATE to the rim.

Population Data (9/15): This piece is tied for the finest of the variety, according to the Condition Census in *Early Quarter Dollars*.

Heritage Commentary: The B-4 variety is a median one in terms of rarity among the five known die marriages for 1837, neither common nor rare. The reverse die crack is unsurprising, given that this doughty die was used earlier to strike Bust quarters in 1835 (B-8) and 1836 (B-1, B-5) before its use for the 1837 B-1, B-3, and this variety.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (9/2006). NGC ID# 23S4, PCGS# 39013 Base PCGS# 5356

1837 Rare B-5 Quarter, MS65
The Eliasberg Example, Finest of the Variety
Double-Struck Far Off-Center — *Only on the Reverse*



98408 1837 B-5, R.5, MS65 NGC. CAC. Ex: Eliasberg. This stunning Gem 1837 Bust quarter is one of the most interesting and puzzling early American coins in the amazing Gardner Collection, as indeed it was in the Eliasberg Collection before it. It is not only a rare variety in Gem condition, it is quite curiously double-struck far off-center on portions of the lower-left reverse — yet there are no signs of double-striking on the obverse. At one time Walter Breen called this coin a “proof,” but it appears clearly to be a high-grade Mint State piece. It was assessed as MS66 in the Eliasberg Collection and today resides in an MS65 NGC holder with the CAC green approval sticker. Furthermore, the B-5 variety is a rare one, rated R.5, and regardless of the exact numerical grade, the Eliasberg example is the sole finest of this variety, according to the Condition Census listings in both *Early Quarter Dollars* by Rea, Peterson et al., and *Early United States Quarters* by Tompkins.

Satin luster appears on both sides of this nicely preserved coin, showing largely light-gray surfaces with accents of olive-brown and noticeable reflectivity, an extremely attractive coin. As the Eliasberg cataloger put it, “This is a coin that has it all,” a sentiment we certainly agree with.

Variety: B-5, R.5. The 7 in the date is nearly out from under (to the left) of the lowest hair curl on the obverse. Star 1 is fractionally closer to the bust than on any other obverse used in 1837. All of the left-side stars lack their central details save for, curiously, star 6, while all of the right-side stars are sharp. The tip of the olive branch is right of the C in the denomination, attributing this rare variety and the sole use of this reverse die. **Double-struck on the lower reverse, but showing no trace of doubling on the obverse.** The most visible areas of double-striking are near the reverse rim from 6 to 10 o'clock.

Population Data (9/15): As mentioned above, this ex: Eliasberg coin appears as the sole finest example of the B-5 variety in the Condition Census of each of the two recently published Bust quarter references.

Heritage Commentary: How is it that a coin could be double-struck so far off-center — and on one side only? This is a coin that clearly perplexed the Eliasberg catalogers at the time, who wrote, “Numismatic Puzzle: How was this particular specimen produced? Here is a coin that challenges the current state of numismatic research concerning how coins were struck during the period.” Those comments are certainly equally valid today.

Provenance: Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; Eliasberg Collection (*Bowers and Merena*, 4/1997), lot 1417; Russ Logan (*Bowers and Merena*, 11/2002), lot 1920; purchased from Jason Carter (3/2003). PCGS# 39014 Base PCGS# 5356

SEATED QUARTERS

1840 With Drapery Quarter, Elusive MS64 Sole Mint State Example at CAC



98409 1840 MS64 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-A. This lightly toned, rather prooflike near-Gem displays carefully preserved surfaces and a good strike. Horizontal striations on the obverse field are strictly of Mint origin, aiding the modest reflectivity. Parallel roller marks that were present on the planchet prior to striking remain faintly visible on the obverse but do not affect the technical grade. Encapsulated in an older green label holder.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. AM touch at their bottoms, and several of the shield lines protrude beyond their boundaries. Some of the diagnostics as Briggs describes are clear, while some others on the reverse are difficult to make out due to the numerous scratches on the old PCGS holder.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports only two in MS64 and two finer, both MS65. NGC shows one each in MS64, MS65, and MS66 ★. This is the sole MS64 with the CAC green approval sticker (and the only Mint State example as well).

Heritage Commentary: Despite the mintage of more than 188,000 pieces, examples of the 1840 With Drapery quarter are elusive in Mint State, and a near-Gem such as the present piece is far more of a condition rarity. The usually seen examples, even those certified at the major services, are usually VF to AU.

Consignor Commentary: Numismatic literature has not had much to say about this date, other than to note it is an R.6 in Mint State. I believe it: I looked for years for a nicely toned Gem, but after searching all that time, I finally settled for this one. Pops are surprisingly low. Seems like no Philadelphia quarters were saved by anybody in the early 1840s. A silver-white coin notable mainly for a series of roller marks (as made) on the obverse.

Provenance: Long Beach Bullet Sale (Heritage, 10/1991), lot 5232; Portland, Oregon Signature (Heritage, 3/2004), lot 5635; Amherst and Waccabuc Collections (Stack's, 11/2007), lot 1065. NGC ID# 23SH, PCGS# 5397

1840-O With Drapery Quarter, MS62 Small O, Briggs 2-C



98410 1840-O Small O Drapery MS62 PCGS. Briggs 2-C. Silvery centers on this With Drapery quarter give way to somewhat deeper toning at the rims on each side. A few stray marks are undistracting and in concert with the grade, amid a nonetheless sharp strike and good eye appeal.

Variety: Small O mintmark, Briggs 2-C.

Population Data (9/15): For the 1840-O With Drapery, PCGS reports seven examples in this grade and 17 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Many of the Briggs 2-C coins were found in the New Orleans Hoard, a treasure trove of silver coins unearthed in October 1982. The New Orleans Hoard, found during excavation for the Meridien Hotel in the French Quarter, contained a few examples of the 1840-O No Drapery, along with many more of the 1841-O and 1840-O With Drapery quarters. An October 31, 1982, *New York Times* article said that "welldressed bank employees and bystanders rushed into foul-smelling clay muck to grub for money," which included New Orleans Mint coins from the early 1840 and Spanish coins from the mid-1700s.

Provenance: Empire State Collection (Stack's, 1/1997), lot 540. NGC ID# 23SJ, PCGS# 5398

1841 Quarter, Brilliant MS65
Doubled Die Reverse



98411 1841 MS65 NGC. Briggs 1-A. An untoned brilliant silver-white Gem, save for the slightest suggestion of pinkish-gold patina more prominent on the reverse. A few scattered ticks show, none overt. The strike is sharp to full on stars 1-11, with notable weakness only in the centers of stars 12 and 13.

Variety: Doubled die reverse, Briggs 1-A.

Population Data (9/15): NGC data report five submissions in MS65 and a single MS66 ★ coin finer. PCGS shows one each in MS65 and MS66.

Heritage Commentary: Although they may be little touted or recognized today, no Seated quarter issue from the 1840s is common in Mint State. The 1841 in Mint State is rated R.6 by Larry Briggs. The *Cherrypickers' Guide* lists (in the Appendix) an 1841-O Seated quarter (FS-101) with doubled die reverse, but we find no mention of an 1841 Philadelphia coin. One wonders if the dies were struck from the same hub ...

Consignor Commentary: There are actually two 1841 MS65 NGC coins in the collection, one well-toned and well-struck, which I would normally list. Then there is this coin which, even though it is brilliant, I think is the more interesting, as it features a doubled die reverse. The doubling can be clearly seen along the top of the letters TATES. Must be a fairly early die state, as no die cracks are visible on the reverse.

Provenance: *Bowers and Merena (1/2000)*, lot 136. NGC ID# 23SK, PCGS# 5399

1841 Seated Quarter, Satiny MS65



98412 1841 MS65 NGC. Even though 120,000 pieces were struck of the 1841 quarter, it is nevertheless a very scarce coin in high grades. The surfaces of this sharply struck Gem display bright, satiny luster. Each side displays gray, lilac, and rust-colored toning. An original and conditionally rare coin in such a superior grade.

Population Data (9/15): NGC and PCGS report, respectively, five MS65 and one MS66 ★ finer and one MS65 with an MS66 finer.

Heritage Commentary: One of two Gem examples of this date in the Gardner Collection. Gene Gardner also bought the Newman Collection MS66 ★ NGC example from our offering of that collection in November 2013. These early 1840s Seated quarters are far more elusive than generally recognized in Mint State.

Consignor Commentary: A well-struck and well-toned coin, one of two examples in MS65 NGC; the other coin shows a doubled die reverse. Very elusive in Mint State, as the population data prove.

Provenance: *FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2003)*, lot 6653; *Portland, Oregon Signature (Heritage, 3/2004)*. NGC ID# 23SK, PCGS# 5399

**1842-O Small Date Quarter, Satiny AU55
Sharp Strike, Important Series Rarity
Only Two Known in Mint State**



98413 1842-O Small Date AU55 PCGS. Briggs 1-A. Silvery and grayish-white centers cede to glimpses of copper-gold patina nearer the rims on each side of this lightly circulated key-date Seated quarter. Considerable satiny luster remains. Contact marks are fairly widespread but uniformly on the small side, producing much eye appeal. The strike is nice and sharp, save for minimal weakness on the lower left (facing) eagle's leg.

Variety: Small Date, Briggs 1-A. Early reverse die state, before some unspecified damage to the reverse die made subsequent coins weakly struck on the eagle's neck and the left portions of the shield.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports two AU55 with one AU58 and one MS61 finer. NGC shows one AU55 and the MS63 example discussed below.

Heritage Commentary: This is a second example of the 1842-O Small Date in the Gardner Collection. Of the other coin, an MS63 NGC example, Gene Gardner wrote, "One of the great rarities of the series, the 1842-O Small Date quarter now has only two examples slabbed in Mint State, the current coin and one other graded MS61 by PCGS." The MS63 NGC piece brought \$55,813 in our Gardner Part I offering in October 2014.

Provenance: *Goldberg Auctions (5/2006)*, lot 1753. NGC ID# 23SN, PCGS# 5403

**1843-O Large O Quarter, Appealing XF45
Extremely Rare, One Finer at PCGS**



98414 1843-O Large O XF45 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 3-F, FS-501. Deep dove-gray central patina yields to lovely forest-green borders on each side of this attractive Choice XF Seated quarter. Remaining traces of mint luster and a sharp strike on problem-free surfaces constitute excellent eye appeal.

Variety: Large O, Briggs 3-F, FS-501. Larry Briggs in 1991 rated this variety R.7 in XF/AU and "Unknown" in Mint State.

Population Data (9/15): For the variety, PCGS reports two submissions in XF45 and one AU53 finer. NGC reports a single XF45 and one MS64, the Gardner coin discussed below.

Heritage Commentary: Another duplicate in the Gardner Collection, this piece is surpassed by his MS64 NGC ex: Eliasberg example, which sold for \$19,975 in our Gardner Part III Signature in May 2015.

Provenance: *Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2012)*, lot 3458. NGC ID# 23SS, PCGS# 395927 Base PCGS# 5405

1846 Quarter, Lightly Toned MS65
Very Rare in Mint State



98415 1846 MS65 PCGS. Briggs 4-F. Light rose-gold patina is more perceptible on the obverse of this Gem 1846 quarter, a rarity in any Mint State grade. The surfaces are crisply struck throughout both sides and highly lustrous. Scattered ticks show on Liberty's midsection and lower torso, but none of them are overt.

Variety: Briggs 4-F. The proof dies, showing a nice, crisp strike on all star centers and Liberty's head. Several die cracks show on the reverse in and above OF AMERIC.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports three examples of the 1846 quarter in MS65 with none finer. NGC shows 11 in MS64, none in MS65, but one MS66 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Even though Larry Briggs rates the 1846 quarter R.6 in Mint State, Gene Gardner had three 1846 quarters in Gem or finer grades. This Gem PCGS 1846 quarter is one of two in this session of the Gardner Collection. Another Gem PCGS-CAC example in this session shows a bit more toning. The third piece, an MS66 NGC coin, brought \$14,100 in our Gardner Part III auction in May 2015.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rareties (9/2006). NGC ID# 4B6Z, PCGS# 5409

1846 Quarter, Well-Preserved MS65
Sole CAC Example in This Grade



98416 1846 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Sharply struck surfaces on this Gem PCGS coin feature a mixture of copper-gold, grayish-green, olive, and silvery areas with uniformly good preservation throughout both sides. Few abrasions of any import appear. A die line runs from the denticles above the A in STATES and through TE to the O of OF and back to the denticles above the first A in AMERICA.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports three submissions in MS65 with none finer. NGC shows 11 in MS64 and none in MS65 but one MS66 finer. This is one of two in this grade with the CAC green approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: The 11 submissions in MS64 at NGC almost certainly represent multiples of the same coin, as the issue is very rare in Gem condition or finer. Even so, the Gardner Collection featured three such examples — two MS65 PCGS and one MS66 NGC.

Consignor Commentary: The date 1846 is particularly difficult across the entire Seated series. The dime and half dime are almost impossible in Mint State, and the half dollar presents its own challenges. This well-struck, vibrant coin has to be close to the top of the Condition Census for the date.

Provenance: Rareties Sale (Bowers and Merena, 8/2001), lot 133. NGC ID# 4B6Z, PCGS# 5409

1847-O Quarter, Deeply Toned MS62



98417 1847-O MS62 NGC. Briggs 2-A. Deep patina in shades of mauve, copper-gold, and violet compete with untuned silver-gray areas on this MS62 1847-O quarter. Scattered ticks and scuffs, as well as the numerous die cracks on the reverse, are somewhat difficult to discern amid the deep patina.

Variety: Briggs 2-A. The obverse stars are flatly struck. The mintmark is left of the juncture, and numerous reverse die cracks appear.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports two grading events in MS62 and three MS63 finer. PCGS shows one MS62 with three submissions finer — two MS63 and one MS64.

Heritage Commentary: The 1847-O is elusive in any Mint State grade. Gene Gardner owned this coin for a couple of years before upgrading it with an MS63 PCGS example. That example brought \$12,925 in our Gardner Part I Signature (Heritage, 6/2014), lot 30367.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence (6/2003). NGC ID# 23SY, PCGS# 5411

1848/1848 Seated Quarter, MS63
Doubled Date, Compass Point Reverse



98418 1848/1848 MS63 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-A. Deep amethyst and blue hues encompass each side of this Select quarter, a nice and sharply struck piece but a bit muted in the luster department. Few abrasions appear for the grade.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. Doubled date, Compass Point reverse. The entire date is repunched slightly left of the subsequent date, particularly prominent on the 4. Recutting shows on several obverse stars. The circular “bite” out of the first vertical stripe on the shield is familiar to collectors as the “Compass Point” reverse die, which also appears on some 1849 quarters. No “plain date” quarters exist, apparently, but the 1848/48 (or 1848/1848 as we chose to list it here, since all four digits are doubled) is scarcer than the other obverse die, which shows a triple-punched 1 and a double-punched last 8.

Population Data (9/15): For the date, PCGS shows four MS63 and four finer — three MS64 and one MS65. NGC reports three MS63 and six finer.

Heritage Commentary: Gene Gardner upgraded this coin as well, eventually settling on an MS64 NGC coin, also Briggs 1-A. He rated this coin only a “4” in eye appeal, versus an 8 for the newer piece. This is not so much a condemnation of this piece — which has many merits in its own right, and Gardner rated quite a few of his coins 4 on a scale of 1 to 10 — as it is high praise for its replacement, one of the few he ranked an 8. The higher-graded example brought \$4,406 in our Gardner Part II Signature (Heritage, 10/2014), lot 98361.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (10/2001). NGC ID# 23SZ, PCGS# 5412

1850 Quarter, Rim-Toned MS65
Conditionally Rare



98419 1850 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 3-C. Some pale grayish-white areas remain in the center, ceding to somewhat deeper copper-violet patina nearer the rims. An attractively sharp strike and good luster make this Gem a compelling coin and a good bidding opportunity.

Variety: Briggs 3-C, showing no special die characteristics other than the sharp strike on the stars.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports this single piece in MS65 with one MS67 finer. NGC data show three submitted in MS65 and one MS66 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Besides this nice Gem, Gene Gardner also owned a “wonder coin” (in his words, although we agree) MS67 NGC piece (now crossed over to MS65 PCGS). That “pop 1” coin brought \$38,188 from a floor bidder in our Gardner Part I Signature (Heritage, 6/2014), lot 30368. But the present Gem is certainly no slouch aesthetically; Briggs rates Mint State examples at R.7, likely due to the massive melting of small-denomination silver coins in the early 1850s through 1853.

Provenance: Purchased from Bill Nagle (7/2001). NGC ID# 23T4, PCGS# 5415

1850-O Quarter, MS64
The Eliasberg Example



98420 1850-O MS64 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-B. Ex: Eliasberg. The reflective surfaces on this near-Gem show champagne and iridescent patina with some silvery areas remaining in the centers. The strike is bold throughout — not absolute, but far finer than usual for this strike-challenged issue. The obverse die shows heavy signs of rust on the portrait of Liberty.

Variety: Briggs 1-B. Rusted obverse die, die lines above stars 10-12 to rim, mintmark further right. **Die State:** Die cracks on the reverse run from the tip of the eagle’s left (facing) wing and the lowest arrowhead to the rim.

Population Data (9/15): This MS64 coin is the sole finest at PCGS. Interestingly, NGC reports six in MS64 with one each in MS65 and MS66 finer. Of the seven submissions in MS64 at both services, only this piece and one other have the CAC green approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: The mintage figures for the 1849-O and 1850-O quarter issues were lumped together, but the 1849-O is far rarer. Gene Gardner also owned an MS65 NGC coin that brought \$11,183 in our Gardner Part I Signature (Heritage, 6/2014), lot 30369, but felt that this coin had greater eye appeal.

Consignor Commentary: The Eliasberg coin, the finest graded at PCGS, but bettered by two at NGC. The strike is particularly strong despite a plethora of sharp lines in the right obverse field. Strong eye appeal.

Provenance: Probably Richard B. Winsor Collection (Chapman Brothers, 12/1895); J.M. Clapp; John H. Clapp; Clapp estate to Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. (1942); Eliasberg Collection (Bowers and Merena, 4/1997), lot 1448. NGC ID# 23T5, PCGS# 5416

1851 Quarter, Toned MS65
Elusive Melt Rarity in Mint State



98421 1851 MS65 NGC. Briggs 1-B. The patina is lovely but unusual, appearing as though a bisecting vertical line down the middle of the obverse separates that side into two halves, more golden-gray and silver on the left side and gold, blue, and lilac on the right side. The reverse adopts a more traditional approach, showing rings of pastel concentric toning. The strike is uniformly sharp and the surfaces attractive throughout.

Variety: Briggs 1-B. The vertical shield lines do not quite reach at the bottom to the shield outline.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports three submissions in MS65 and one MS67+ ★ piece finer (a recent addition to the NGC data). PCGS shows four MS65 and one MS66 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The silver melts of the 1850s were occasioned by an overvaluation of silver as reckoned in gold, due to the Gold Rush that began in earnest in 1849. The mintage figures are largely irrelevant, but what is relevant is how rare this date is in Mint State — much less Gem condition.

Consignor Commentary: A lovely, evenly toned coin with one small spot in the right obverse field. Otherwise perfect, the fields undisturbed. This is a premium coin for the grade. In his book Larry Briggs rates this date R.6 in Mint State, and in April 1994 in an article in the *Gobrecht Journal* he listed the date as among the 10 most difficult Seated quarters to obtain from the Philadelphia Mint. Bob Foster in a later article (*Gobrecht Journal*, July 2000) rates it more towards the middle of the pack, although he terms the date a “sleeper.”

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (4/2005). NGC ID# 23T6, PCGS# 5417

1852/852 Quarter, Briggs 1-A, MS66
Repunched Date, Sole CAC So Graded



98422 1852/852 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-A. The grayish-gold and rose-tinged surfaces show relatively few marks, although a small planchet flaw appears near star 1. The centers are fairly well-struck but the obverse stars are largely flat. Strike softness also shows on the reverse around all of the letter tops, but most noticeable at TES.

Variety: 1852/852, Briggs 1-A. One of two die pairs known; this pair was also used for the few proofs known. The 8 is lightly repunched south and the 5 heavily repunched south. The 2 shows a small sliver of extra metal on the underside of the upper curve.

Population Data (9/15): For the 1852 date, this MS66 piece is one of three such at PCGS; none are finer. NGC reports two MS66 and one MS68 ★ piece finer. This is the sole MS66 with the CAC green approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: The 1852 is a melt rarity due to the mass meltings that would follow in 1853. And the variety is rare: Briggs writes in his reference that “only a few have been seen after several years of searching.” Gene Gardner owned a second example of this date (Briggs 2-B), the ex: Eric Newman MS68 ★ NGC coin that we offered as lot 98340 in our Gardner Part III Signature (Heritage, 5/2015), which brought \$99,875. “But my other car is a Rolls-Royce.”

Consignor Commentary: Strongly struck on the reverse, but the stars and some of the features on the obverse are flat. The 1852 date is “only” an R.5 in Mint State. To show how tough this series is, you have to go back nine years to 1843 to find another date rated this “common.”

Provenance: Allison Park Collection (*American Numismatic Rareities*, 8/2004) lot 343. NGC ID# 23T8, PCGS# 5419

1852-O Quarter, Elusive MS62
Only CAC Mint State Example



98423 1852-O MS62 NGC. CAC. Briggs 1-B. This elusive 1852-O quarter in MS62 NGC, an absolute and conditional rarity, hails from the celebrated Richmond Collection, a coin showing great luster on light rose-gray surfaces. Some splashes of deeper color occur near the obverse rims, and the strike is moderate in the centers but soft on Liberty's head and bodice and some of the nearby obverse stars.

Variety: Briggs 1-B. All the horizontal shield lines exit the left border.

Population Data (9/15): NGC data show only two Mint State examples, one MS61 and the present MS62 coin. PCGS reports two Mint State coins as well, one each in MS62 and MS63. Although Gene Gardner owned both MS62 examples, this is the sole such with the CAC green approval sticker. (It is also the only Mint State 1852-O with CAC approval in any grade.)

Heritage Commentary: As might be expected from an issue with a mintage of only 96,000 coins and known as a melt rarity, the 1852-O is very scarce in all grades, very rare in XF/AU, and High R.7 in Mint State. Gene Gardner eventually settled on an MS62 PCGS coin for his set, but he called it "not really much of an upgrade," noting that this coin had "more flash" while the PCGS coin had a better strike. Gene Gardner's MS62 PCGS example (lacking the CAC endorsement) was lot 98341 in our Gardner Part III Signature (Heritage, 5/2015), where it brought \$21,500.

Provenance: Richmond Collection (David Lawrence, 3/2005), lot 1427. NGC ID# 23T9, PCGS# 5420

1853 No Arrows Quarter, MS65
Repunched Date, Melt Rarity



98424 1853 No Arrows MS65 NGC. Briggs 1-A, FS-301. This Gem 1853 No Arrows quarter, certified in an older NGC "no-line fatty" holder, displays splendid peach, rose, and ocean-blue patina on lustrous surfaces devoid of mentionable marks. Sumptuous eye appeal and a splendid, sharp strike make this No Arrows quarter an obvious target for series specialists.

Variety: Briggs 1-A, FS-301, showing repunching on the 53 in the date. The sole dies known for the No Arrows issue.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports three submissions each in MS65, MS66, and MS67, with one MS68 finer. The finest at PCGS are two MS67 and one MS67+.

Heritage Commentary: The *Guide Book* records a mintage of more than 15 million pieces for the 1853 Arrows and Rays quarters, versus only 44,200 pieces for the 1853 No Arrows. Imbalances in the ratios of gold and silver after 1849, due to the California Gold Rush, had made silver coinage overvalued — worth more as melted bullion than its face value — and in 1853 the Mint would reduce the amount of silver proportionally in all denominations smaller than one dollar to a level that would make melting unprofitable. This reduced weight standard was denoted by the Arrows design on half dimes and dimes, and Arrows and Rays on quarters and half dollars.

Gene Gardner also owned an MS68 NGC example of this issue, a fantastic coin that we offered in our Gardner Part I Signature (Heritage, 6/2014), lot 30370, which realized \$38,188.

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2006), lot 2285. PCGS# 5421

1853 No Arrows Quarter, Sharp MS66
Seldom Seen Finer



98425 1853 No Arrows MS66 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-A, FS-301. Both sides of this Premium Gem are brilliant with lustrous silver surfaces, the reverse accented by rich gold color at the border. A sharply struck and beautifully preserved example of this conditionally elusive issue (and a melt rarity to boot).

Variety: Briggs 1-A, FS-301, showing repunching on the 53 in the date.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports five submissions in MS66 with three MS67 (one MS67+) finer. NGC shows three each in MS66 and MS67, and one in MS68. Of those eight grading events in MS66, CAC reports two with the green approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: A third example of this issue in the Gardner Collection, along with two NGC-graded examples, one in MS65 and one in MS68. Only a single die variety has been identified among survivors from the mintage of 44,200 coins. The obverse always shows recutting on 53, although it usually goes unseen on lower-grade coins. The flag of the 5 and the top inside curve of the 3 are both recut with remnants of the original punch below the final position. At one time, this was incorrectly described as an 1853/2 overdate.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2006), lot 931. PCGS# 5421

1853-O Arrows and Rays Quarter, MS64
Top-Grade PCGS Survivor



98426 1853-O Arrows and Rays MS64 PCGS. Briggs 1-B. Considerable luster emanates from surfaces that show little post-strike contact amid largely silver-gold patina, with daubs of jade, ochre, and mauve more visible on the reverse. Excellent eye appeal.

Variety: Arrows and Rays, Briggs 1-B, showing notable die clashing on both sides. Like many examples, the present near-Gem displays a “halo” effect around many of the devices, an attempt, per Larry Briggs, to reengrave the dies to prolong their life. The obverse die nonetheless appears in an advanced state. Aside from the prominent halo effect on the right-side stars, an extremely bold die clash runs from Liberty’s lower curls through the pole and upraised forearm. A couple of wispy die cracks appear elsewhere on that side. The reverse shows the legend heavily recut, with the rays extending through the mintmark.

Population Data (9/15): This near-Gem is one of the five finest at PCGS. NGC reports two MS64 with one MS65 and two MS66 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Briggs’ 2008 series update in the *Coin Dealer Newsletter* called this issue “fairly easy to locate in all grades AG-XF; AU coins very scarce and Mint State coins downright rare.” The large mintage figure of more than 1.3 million coins is deceptive. These lighter-silver-weight coins were meant to restore silver coinage to circulation — and circulate they did. The average certified survivor is less than XF40. Gene Gardner owned a different 1853-O Arrows quarter in an MS64 PCGS holder for six years before he purchased this one from our 2010 FUN Signature.

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2010), lot 2512. NGC ID# 23U5, PCGS# 5428

1854 Arrows Quarter, Vivid MS65



98427 1854 Arrows MS65 PCGS. CAC. The hallmark of this Gem 1854 Arrows quarter is its exceptional luster, complementing a full strike amid attractive rose, gray-violet, and sea-green patina. A few diagonal toning streaks cross the upper obverse. A pleasing example of this popular two-year type, certified in a PCGS green-label holder.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 13 in MS65 (one MS65+) and 12 finer. NGC shows 20 in MS65 and seven finer. Only eight in MS65 have the CAC green approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: Even though the 1854-P has a sizeable original mintage and is the most common issue of the 1854-1855 Arrows type, it is anything but common in the finer Mint State grades. These coins ameliorated a yearslong shortage of circulating silver by circulating extensively themselves.

Provenance: JFS Collection / Pittsburgh Signature (Heritage, 8/2004), lot 4017; purchased from Bill Nagle (3/2007). NGC ID# 23U6, PCGS# 5432

1854-O Arrows Quarter, Exceptional MS65
Sole CAC Example in This Grade



98428 1854-O Arrows MS65 NGC. CAC. Chestnut-brown, ruby-red, and ocean-blue patina enriches this satiny and unmarked Gem 1854-O Arrows quarter. The strike is attentive, and the eye appeal exceptional. Certified in an old-style NGC "no-line fatty" holder.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows four MS65 and one MS67 finer. PCGS reports only one each in MS65 and MS66 with none finer. This is the sole MS65 with the CAC green approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: Nearly 1.5 million examples of this issue were struck, making it a viable alternative for type-collecting purposes to the ubiquitous 1854 Philadelphia Arrows quarter. The 1854-O Arrows is fairly plentiful in grades between AG and XF, but Mint State examples are very scarce, and Gems are decidedly rare. Such pieces are under strong demand, since they represent the briefly issued Arrows, No Rays, No Motto subtype.

Provenance: Father Flanagan's Boys Home Sale (Superior, 5/1990), lot 3669; Silbermünzen Collection / Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 5/2008), lot 316. NGC ID# 3EA2, PCGS# 5433

1854-O Arrows Quarter, MS66
The Stickney-Clapp-Eliasberg Coin
Sole Finest Certified



98429 1854-O Arrows MS66 PCGS. Briggs 2-E. Silver-gray, rose, and violet with pale blue accents prevail on both sides amid good luster and excellent eye appeal. This coin shows preservation that puts it far ahead of any other known competitor for finest known of this high-mintage issue.

Variety: Briggs 2-E. The figure of Liberty shows recutting and on the reverse there is a die scratch through the denticles above TAT.

Population Data (8/15): In MS66 PCGS, this piece is the sole finest at that service. This crossed-over coin was formerly the sole finest at NGC as well, an MS67. The second finest are one MS65 at PCGS and four MS65 at NGC.

Heritage Commentary: After the silver-content reduction in silver coinage signified by the Arrows motif, the New Orleans Mint in 1853 and 1854 struck a total of about 2.8 million coins — enormous numbers for the branch mint. As might be expected from the pent-up demand created by a shortage of coinage the previous several years, most of those O-mint quarters (and their Arrows counterparts from other mints) circulated far and wide. Few Mint State examples survive of this workhorse emission.

Consignor Commentary: The finest known of the date at either service. This was formerly the sole MS67 NGC example and now is the lone MS66 PCGS coin, in each case the single finest graded. The fields are completely clean except for a small tick in the obverse field to the right of Liberty's knee.

Provenance: Matthew A. Stickney Collection (Henry Chapman, 6/1907), lot 1193; John H. Clapp; Clapp Estate to Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. (1942); Eliasberg Collection (Bowers and Merena, 4/1997), lot 1457; Chesapeake Collection (Bowers and Merena, 5/1999), lot 2087; unknown intermediaries; purchased from Stuart Blay (8/2008). NGC ID# 3EA2, PCGS# 5433

1855 Arrows Quarter, Vividly Toned MS66
'Compass Point' Reverse



98430 1855 Arrows MS66 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 3-C. Beautiful rose and aqua patina thoroughly covers both sides of this vivid Premium Gem type coin, showing a bold strike and excellent preservation. Top-notch eye appeal is present.

Variety: Briggs 3-C. The date slopes down left to right, and the "Compass Point" reverse shows a circular area at the top of the first set of horizontal lines, which are incomplete.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows four submissions in MS66 and a single MS67 finer, the latter a recent addition to the populations. NGC reports three each in MS66 and MS67 (one MS67+ ★). Of the seven submissions in MS66, this is the sole coin with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: It is not uncommon for a collector, especially one so advanced as Gene Gardner, to purchase some top-grade pieces to "finish off" a collection shortly before retiring the set(s) and offering the coins, either publicly or privately. Even though this Premium Gem coin certainly needs no apologies, Gene Gardner owned it for a dozen years before purchasing an MS67 NGC coin to upgrade that slot. That piece brought \$27,025 as lot 98342 in our Gardner Part III Signature (Heritage, 5/2015).

Provenance: Purchased from National Rare Coins (9/2001). NGC ID# 23U8, PCGS# 5435

1855-O Arrows Quarter, Sharp MS63
Extremely Rare in Any Mint State Grade



98431 1855-O Arrows MS63 NGC. Briggs 1-A. Medium golden-rose patina graces each side of this Select 1855-O Arrows quarter, complementing generous luster and a sharp strike. An extreme rarity in any Mint State grade.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. The mintmark is slightly closer than on Reverse B, and a well-developed die crack runs from the dentils upward between Q and U to the eagle's leftmost talon.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports three MS63, two MS64, and one MS67. The only Mint State examples at PCGS are one MS63 and two MS64.

Heritage Commentary: The MS67 NGC-CAC example of this issue mentioned above was also Gene Gardner's (and ex: Eliasberg), sold in our Gardner Part III Signature as lot 98343 (Heritage, 5/2015), where it realized \$82,250. But even in the more-modest MS63 grade of the present piece, this is an issue that simply does not trade frequently: This is the first offering of this MS63, or any MS63 example, since the Richmond Collection auction in 2005.

Provenance: Richmond Collection (David Lawrence, 3/2005), lot 1436. NGC ID# 49XK, PCGS# 5436

1855-S Arrows Quarter, Frosty MS63



98432 1855-S Arrows MS63 PCGS. Briggs 1-B. This frosty Select 1855-S Arrows quarter displays intense cartwheel effects beneath apricot-gray iridescence. The grade-defining abrasions are neither excessive nor numerous, and the strike is razor-sharp throughout. Certified in a green-label holder.

Variety: Briggs 1-B. A die line runs at a 45-degree angle downward from Liberty's elbow, and on the reverse the mintmark is barely free of both the fletchings and the stem tip.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports two MS63 with four finer — three MS64 (one MS64+) and one MS65. NGC shows one each in MS63, MS64, and MS65.

Heritage Commentary: Although dies were on hand as early as 1853, the dearth of parting acids prevented the production of silver coinage at the San Francisco Mint until 1855, when 396,400 quarters and 129,950 half dollars flowed into California's economic channels. While the half dollar is rightly recognized as a rare issue in all grades, the 1855-S Arrows Seated quarter is also a legitimately scarce coin that is difficult to find problem-free in any grade. Larry Briggs ranks the issue High R.6 in Mint State.

Provenance: Dr. Jeff Hosford Collection / Philadelphia 2000 (Heritage, 8/2000), lot 5799. NGC ID# 49XJ, PCGS# 5437

1856 Quarter, Rim-Toned MS66
One of Three With CAC Approval



98433 1856 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 2-A. Rose-gray centers are bounded by attractive green and gold patina nearer the rims on this well-preserved — and equally well-struck — Premium Gem 1856 quarter.

Variety: Briggs 2-A. Obvious repunching shows within the lower loop of the 6 and light retouching at the base of the 5. The “Compass Point” reverse is a recurring theme with variations among Seated quarters of the 1840s-1850s.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS and NGC report, respectively 10 and nine in MS66 with none finer. Of those 19 submissions, only three, including this piece, have the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: One of two MS66 PCGS-CAC examples of the 1856 quarter in the Gardner Collection. The first example, also with beautiful toning, brought \$10,575 as lot 30374 in our Gardner Part I Signature (Heritage, 6/2014).

Provenance: Purchased from Rare Coins of New Hampshire (11/2006). NGC ID# 23TB, PCGS# 5438

1856-O Seated Quarter, Multicolor MS64
Seldom Seen Finer



98434 1856-O MS64 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-A. Deep multicolor patina accompanies a strike that is bold on all stars and throughout most of the devices, although it is a bit flat below the shield on the reverse.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. Two prominent die scratches show in the dentils above star 7, and die lines appear in many of the obverse stars. Clash marks on the reverse show under the eagle's left (facing) wing.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports five in MS64 and three MS65 finer. NGC data show eight submissions in MS64 and none in MS65, but one MS66 is finer. This is one of only two MS64 with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: Despite generous — and sometimes prodigious — quantities of coins struck per issue, the Seated quarters of the 1853-55 Arrows motif and the resumed No Arrows type of later in the 1850s are relatively scarce, compared to their mintages, in the higher Mint State grades. The silver-weight reduction signified by the Arrows types were meant to make silver coins circulate again, and it succeeded well: The average survivor of these issues is a well-circulated coin, usually somewhere in the VF-AU range. The 1856-O is a case in point: Nearly 1 million were struck, yet the average *certified* coin is midway between XF40 and XF45. Gene Gardner also owned an MS65 NGC example of this date, which has apparently now been upgraded or “crossed.”

Provenance: Kingswood (3/2001), lot 187. NGC ID# 23TC, PCGS# 5439

1857 Seated Quarter, Rim-Toned MS66
Great Type Coin



98435 1857 MS66 NGC. Certified in an older NGC “no-line fatty” holder, this Premium Gem 1857 Seated quarter displays untoned silver-white centers bounded by rose-cinnamon and blue-green rim toning on surfaces that are well-struck and nicely preserved for the grade. A great type-coin representative of this relatively available date.

Population Data (9/15): In MS66 PCGS reports 37 submissions (four MS66+) along with seven MS67 and one MS68 finer. NGC reports 42, 22, and two in the numeric levels of MS66, 67, and MS68, respectively.

Heritage Commentary: Nearly 10 million pieces were struck of this high-mintage issue within the Seated quarter series, but all the same, examples in the higher Mint State reaches are seldom seen. The average certified survivor is a tad less than AU55. Examples are obtainable for a price, however, even up to MS68. Besides this piece, Gene Gardner owned two other examples, both NGC-certified, one MS67 and one MS67+.

Provenance: *Bowers and Merena (3/2002)*, lot 2246. NGC ID# 23TE, PCGS# 5442

1857 Quarter, Vividly Toned MS67+
Fantastic Surfaces



98436 1857 MS67+ NGC. CAC. Fabulous iridescent toning prevails on each side. The rim on the obverse has concentric rings of varying shades of blue and then rose, with a golden-rose center. The reverse is sky-blue accented with rose-gold on each side. Bright underlying frosted luster only serves to make the color pop that much more. The strike is a bit soft on each side, and as expected for the high grade, no mentionable contact marks appear.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows 22 submissions in MS67, of which two have the Star designation and only this piece has the Plus designation. Two MS68 at NGC are finer. PCGS reports seven MS67 (one MS67+) and one MS68 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Another “old friend come around to visit again”; needless to say, we remember this coin, of which the present cataloger (GH) wrote the last time around, “This one of those occasional numismatic treasures that we Heritage catalogers get to enjoy before the bidders — a coin that simply should not exist in so high a grade.” We are certainly thrilled that Gene Gardner agreed with our assessment and owned this coin for the past three-plus years. This piece is the finest of the three 1857 quarters that we know Gardner owned.

Provenance: *Central States Signature (Heritage, 4/2011)*, lot 5084. NGC ID# 23TE, PCGS# 5442

1857-O Quarter, Colorful MS63
FS-301, Misplaced Date Variety



98437 1857-O MS63 PCGS. Briggs 7-C, FS-301. Traces of copper-brown and gold in the interiors cede to deeper burgundy patina near the rims on each side of this sharply struck Select Mint State 1857-O quarter, an elusive issue in any Mint State grade

Variety: Briggs 7-C, FS-301. Portions of an extra 1 and 8 protrude from the dentils at the bottom obverse rim. The reverse shows bold die clash marks below the eagle's right (facing) wing. This variety was discovered by Larry Briggs, who writes in his series reference that it "seems to be the rarest variety of the year."

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports seven submissions in MS63 and six in MS64, with none finer. The finest at NGC are four MS63 and two MS64.

Heritage Commentary: Gene Gardner had four 1857-O quarters in his collection — this MS63 PCGS that he bought in 2001, a second one in the same grade he bought shortly after, an MS64 PCGS coin that he acquired in 2009 (and included in his photographic reference book), and a fourth MS64 PCGS he bought in 2013. His search for the finest-quality examples never stopped.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (12/2001). NGC ID# 23TF, PCGS# 5443

1857-O Quarter, Elusive MS63
R.6 in Mint State



98438 1857-O MS63 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 4-B. Areas of untuned silver-white contrast with gold, rose, and burgundy color more prominently around portions of the rim on each side. Liberty's upper gown and torso, and parts of the central device opposite, show a weak strike. On the reverse, the eagle's left thigh, arrows, left shield border, and bottom of the shield are softly struck. Scattered abrasions are minimal, and other than the strike, the eye appeal is generally quite good.

Variety: Briggs 4-B. The obverse shows a die crack from the top of the 1 across the rock to the left-side stars. The centers of the obverse stars grow progressively weaker, moving clockwise. The reverse shows a fine die crack at the bottoms of NITED.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports seven submissions in MS63 and six in MS64 with none finer. The finest at NGC are four MS63 and two MS64. This MS63 and two others have the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: Despite a mintage of nearly 1.2 million coins, the 1857-O is ranked R.6 in Mint State by Larry Briggs. This is one of four examples of the issue that Gene Gardner owned — all PCGS-certified, two each in MS63 and MS64.

Provenance: Purchased privately from Heritage (3/2002). NGC ID# 23TF, PCGS# 5443

1857-O Quarter, Satiny MS64
Tied for Finest Graded



98439 1857-O MS64 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 2-B. The satiny surfaces are toned apricot and powder-blue on the obverse, while the reverse offers lilac, ice-blue, aqua, and golden shades. The surfaces are unabraded, but the strike is slightly soft along the left borders of both sides.

Variety: Briggs 2-B, given the position of the date and the extremely light die crack on the reverse through TED STATES.

Population Data (9/15): This MS64 piece is one of six submissions in this top grade at PCGS. NGC reports two MS64 and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: One of four 1857-O quarters that Gene Gardner owned in MS63 and MS64, all PCGS, this piece is undoubtedly one of the finest survivors of the issue that most Seated quarter aficionados are likely ever to be able to acquire.

Consignor Commentary: Another R.6 coin in Mint State. One can become almost inured as to how rare so many of these coins are in Uncirculated condition. Today none are graded finer than MS64, but once upon a time PCGS showed five in MS64 and one in MS65. Another old green holder bites the dust?

Provenance: Los Angeles Signature (Heritage, 8/2009), lot 585. NGC ID# 23TF, PCGS# 5443

1857-S Quarter, Lustrous MS64
Low-Mintage Early S-Mint Rarity



98440 1857-S MS64 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-A. Generous luster emanates from smoky-gold surfaces with rose and lilac accents and a few scattered marks consistent with the grade. The surfaces are uniformly sharply struck throughout both sides. This piece is certified in an old-style PCGS small-size holder.

Variety: Briggs 1-A, large S mintmark slightly free of the fletchings.

Population Data (9/15): This MS64 is tied for finest with three other submissions at PCGS. NGC reports a single MS64 with one MS66 finer. Three in MS64, including this piece, have the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: Only 82,000 examples were struck of this issue, which Larry Briggs ranks High R.6 in Mint State. Gene Gardner nonetheless owned three of the four MS64 PCGS examples, including the Eliasberg piece (which had an unsightly spot in the right obverse field). We believe the present coin offers the greatest eye appeal of the trio — as did Gene Gardner, judging from the records we have.

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2010), lot 2513; purchased from Legend Numismatics (11/2012). NGC ID# 23TG, PCGS# 5444

1857-S Quarter, Frosty MS64
Seldom Seen So Fine



98441 1857-S MS64 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-B. This near-Gem 1857-S quarter displays frosted mint luster through several layers of toning on each side in shades of gray, pale blue, and rose. A few small marks in the fields and on Liberty account for the grade, but this is a marvelous and conditionally elusive piece, with a sharp strike throughout both sides.

Variety: Briggs 1-B. The large S mintmark is free of the feather but touches the stem.

Population Data (9/15): The finest at PCGS are four submissions in MS64 (including this piece and one other in this same session). NGC reports only a single MS64 with one MS66 finer. Three in MS64, including this piece, have the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: This low-mintage issue is very rare in Mint State, according to Briggs. This is one of three examples, all MS64 PCGS, that Gene Gardner owned. Two are in the present session. The third, the Eliasberg Collection coin, was lot 98368 in our Gardner Part II Signature (Heritage, 10/2014), where it realized \$7,344. It was an exceptional coin, save for one dark spot in the right obverse field.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2011), lot 3548; purchased from Jason Carter (3/2011). NGC ID# 23TG, PCGS# 5444

1858 Quarter, Lovely MS65
Intense Patina, CAC-Approved



98442 1858 MS65 NGC. CAC. Beautiful rose-gold and copper interiors complement the aqua-blue patina that appears around portions of the rims of this Gem. Some diagonal planchet striations show on each side. Few marks occur for the grade, but the luster is somewhat diminished by the intense patina. Strike softness shows on the left-side stars, the upper portion of Liberty, the lower-left side of her rock, and the lower-left eagle details on the reverse.

Population Data (9/15): NGC data show 30 in MS65 (one MS65+, one MS65 ★) and 19 finer, up through a single MS67 ★ (discussed below). PCGS reports 37 MS65 (two MS65+) and 13 finer. This piece is among 17 in this grade with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: This Gem is the *lowest-graded* of four examples of this date that Gene Gardner owned. The finest was the MS67 ★ NGC ex: Newman coin, one of five at that numeric level and still the only one with the Star designation, which we offered as lot 98345 in our Gardner Part III Signature (Heritage, 5/2015), which garnered \$17,625.

Provenance: Superior (1/2003), lot 582. NGC ID# 23TH, PCGS# 5445

1858 Quarter, Lustrous MS66
One MS67 Finer at PCGS



98443 1858 MS66 PCGS. Ample luster proceeds from each side of this Premium Gem PCGS-certified 1858 quarter, one of two such in the Gardner Collection. Grayish-gold and rose patina in the centers cedes to pale jade-blue and copper notes nearer the rims. Some parallel planchet striations that failed to strike out appear throughout. A few of the stars are lacking detail in their centers, but the strike is adequate on most devices, save for notable weakness on the eagle's left (facing) thigh. Bold clash marks show within the reverse shield.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 12 MS66 with one MS67 finer. NGC shows 14 in MS66 with five MS67 (one MS67 ★) finer.

Heritage Commentary: Gene Gardner over the years acquired four quarters of this date, including the MS67 ★ NGC ex: Newman example, two pieces in MS66 PCGS, and one MS65 NGC, the latter three all offered in this session.

Provenance: *Purchased from David Lawrence (11/2007).* NGC ID# 23TH, PCGS# 5445

1858 Quarter, Flashy MS66
Rim-Toned With Great Luster



98444 1858 MS66 PCGS. Generous luster combined with untuned silver-white centers and rim patina in shades of gold and rose produce top-notch eye appeal. The strike is sharp, but it is the luster that first grabs the viewer's attention. Two major die cracks show on the reverse. One links the tops of UN with the denticles on each side, to the two outside leaves, and back to the denticles. The other links the bases of ES OF A.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 12 MS66 with one MS67 finer. NGC shows 14 in MS66 with five MS67 (one MS67 ★) finer.

Heritage Commentary: With a mintage exceeding 7.3 million pieces for this issue, it is unsurprising that some dies seem not to be accounted for in Larry Briggs' now nearly 25-year-old reference. Only five obverse and five reverse dies are described. Briggs himself writes that "several other varieties exist, none seemingly rare."

Consignor Commentary: An unbelievably common date with 26 coins graded MS66 and five others at the MS67 level. So one has a lot to choose from to find a particularly attractive specimen (similar to the position of the late dates 1880-1891 of this series). And this coin, among the finest graded by PCGS, scores quite high on eye appeal with its pristine, lustrous surfaces.

Provenance: *Purchased from Jason Carter (10/2006).* NGC ID# 23TH, PCGS# 5445

1858-O Quarter, Vibrant MS62
Very Rare in Mint State



98445 1858-O MS62 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-A. The obverse displays gray and pale-violet hues with multicolored green, blue, crimson, and gold rim toning and a swath of near-brilliance around the date. The reverse exhibits vibrant golden-orange iridescence with patches of pale-violet and gray interspersed. The strike is sharp, especially for an O-mint quarter.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. All the stars are sharp and most show recutting. The mintmark is centered.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows two submissions in MS62 and five in finer grades, the finest a single MS65. NGC reports four MS62, one MS63+, and one MS65 as finest, the latter coin offered also in this session.

Heritage Commentary: As might be discerned from the certified populations at PCGS and NGC combined — showing fewer than a dozen Mint State grading events, including possible duplications — the 1858-O is very rare in Mint State, ranked R.7 in Larry Briggs' series reference.

Provenance: JFS Collection / Long Beach Bullet Sale (Heritage, 10/2001), lot 543; Pittsburgh Signature (Heritage, 8/2004), lot 4022. NGC ID# 44LC, PCGS# 5446

1858-O Quarter, Sharp MS65
Extremely Underrated Date
Tied for Finest Graded



98446 1858-O MS65 NGC. Briggs 2-B. Original gray and lilac patina encompasses both sides of the coin, with hints of blue in the obverse periphery. The central devices are well-struck, although a bit of weakness can be detected on the upper letters of the reverse. The surfaces are uncommonly smooth, easily in line with the grade, with perhaps the most notable pedigree indicator a small tick on Liberty's left (facing) shoulder. Unsurpassed quality for this date.

Variety: Briggs 2-B. A decent strike overall but softly struck on the lower right-side stars, the lower obverse and upper reverse dentils, and showing the mintmark a tad left of center.

Population Data (9/15): This Gem is the sole finest known at NGC, tied with one in the same grade at PCGS (and that was likely crossed over from an earlier MS65 NGC holder; there were two when Gene Gardner wrote his original comments).

Heritage Commentary: This coin is not among the highest-graded coins in the Gardner Collection and certainly not among the most celebrated, but it may be among the most underrated coins in the collection. The certified populations are almost certainly inflated with recent duplications. Opportunists will certainly try to take advantage of that situation.

Consignor Commentary: One of the stealth rarities in a series filled with them, R.7 in Mint State. So far, only seven "coins" have been graded higher than MS62: two MS63 at PCGS and one at NGC [now an MS63+], one each in MS64 and MS64+ at PCGS, one MS65 at PCGS, and this MS65 NGC coin. So this piece could lay some claim to being tied for the finest known. A beautiful coin it is too, well-struck (especially for a die variety Briggs singles out as being weakly struck on both sides) with natural gray/violet toning. Not much else published. Neither the Eliasberg nor Pittman catalogs thought enough of this date to post a color photo, and Breen confined his comments to three words, a succinct "Ex. rare unc."

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2007), lot 2919. NGC ID# 44LC, PCGS# 5446

1858-S Quarter, Rose-Gold AU58
Among the Few Finest Available



98447 1858-S AU58 NGC. Briggs 2-B. Ex: Eliasberg. Rose-gold surfaces show scattered areas of iridescent patina nearer the peripheries. Scarcely any wear appears on the reverse, which on its own might garner a finer grade, given its sharp strike and excellent preservation. The obverse die is rusted, giving the appearance of more wear or rub than is actually present. A few small ticks show in the right obverse field and on Liberty's left (facing) arm. An incredibly elusive date; only a single piece, formerly in the Richmond Collection and later in the Gene Gardner Collection, is certified in Mint State (MS62 NGC).

Variety: Briggs 2-B. The large S mintmark is shifted a bit further right than on the Briggs 1-A and its top serif lightly grazes the stem tip. The obverse die is lightly rusted.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 11 submissions in AU58 and one MS62 finer (those data almost certainly include numerous duplications). PCGS show only a single AU58 example and also a single MS62 (last appearing in Bowers and Merena's August 1995 Rarities Sale, to our knowledge), backed up by two submissions in AU55.

Heritage Commentary: The 1858-S was unknown in Mint State to Larry Briggs when he published his series reference in 1991, although later the aforementioned MS62 NGC piece appeared in the Richmond Collection (David Lawrence, 3/2005), lot 1446, where Gene Gardner acquired it. That piece sold for \$35,250 in our Gardner Part III Signature (Heritage, 5/2015), lot 98347. This AU58 piece is nonetheless among the few finest available.

Provenance: Eliasberg Collection (Bowers and Merena, 4/1997), lot 1470; purchased from David Lawrence (1/2000). NGC ID# 23TK, PCGS# 5447

1860-S Quarter, XF40
Elusive in Any Grade



98448 1860-S XF40 NGC. Briggs 1-A. More patina shows on the obverse than on the reverse of this elusive date, pale purple with accents of pale blue and gray contrasting against a lightly toned pinkish-gray reverse. The left-side stars show better definition on the obverse than the right-side stars, and on the reverse UNITED ST is noticeably weaker than ATES OF AMERICA. The deeper toning on the obverse makes the scattered ticks and thin scrapes stand out more than on the reverse, which nonetheless is in better shape overall, as well.

Variety: Briggs 1-A, the sole dies known.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports three submissions in XF40 and six finer, the finest a lone AU58 — none in Mint State. PCGS shows three XF40, two in XF45, and one MS61 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Although even an XF40 example of this low-mintage issue of 56,000 pieces is conditionally rare, Gene Gardner also owned an MS61 NGC example of this issue, earlier (when Larry Briggs published his series reference in 1991) thought to be unknown in Mint State. It is apparently now the sole Mint State piece known.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence (6/2003). NGC ID# 442R, PCGS# 5453

1862 Quarter, MS64
Collectible No Motto Issue



98449 1862 MS64 PCGS. Briggs 3-C. A pleasing Choice No Motto quarter, this coin exhibits lavender-gray toning with splashes of cobalt-blue iridescence at the borders. The eagle's talons and feathers are boldly delineated, as are all but stars 4, 6, 8, and 13. A few small field marks limit the grade, none of them overt or singularly distracting.

Variety: Briggs 3-C. The right edge of the 1 in the date is positioned directly below vertical shield line 7.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS records 46 MS64 examples, while NGC shows 42 in the same grade (two MS64+). Each firm has seen 22 submissions finer.

Heritage Commentary: Seated quarter production at the Philadelphia Mint dropped by over 80% between 1861 and 1862 (from 4.8 million coins to 932,000 coins) as the Civil War exerted an increasing strain on the economy. Mintages would see another 80% decline between 1862 and 1863. Briggs (1991) notes: "Although a common date, it is much harder to find than the Philadelphia issues of the previous 9 years. Many most likely melted during the turmoil of the civil war"

Provenance: Alex Cooper Auctioneers (3/2012), lot 251. NGC ID# 23TV, PCGS# 5456

1862 Quarter, Sharp MS66
Excellent Type Coin



98450 1862 MS66 NGC. Briggs 5-E. The surfaces on this Premium Gem 1862 quarter show excellent overall preservation amid rose-gold patina with traces of copper-gold and iridescent color nearer the borders. The reverse adds a bit of peripheral aqua. An extremely lustrous and appealing coin with all star radials boldly struck up.

Variety: Briggs 5-E. The proof dies, showing light recutting on QUAR. DOL.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 10 in MS66 (one MS66+) with two finer, one each in MS67 and MS68. The finest at PCGS are eight MS66 and three MS67.

Heritage Commentary: The 1862 was struck to the extent of 932,000 pieces for circulation and is thus not a rare date, making this a great example for type purposes. Gene Gardner also owned a top-notch MS67 PCGS-CAC example in an old green-label holder that brought \$25,850 in our Gardner Part I Signature (Heritage, 6/2014), lot 30381.

Provenance: Purchased from Benchmark (4/2005). NGC ID# 23TV, PCGS# 5456

1862-S Quarter, MS62
Elusive Issue, Ex: Herman Halpern



98451 1862-S MS62 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-A. Frosty silver interiors complement touches of gold toning at the rims on this attractive better-date Seated quarter. The star centers are mostly well-struck, although minor weakness shows on Liberty's upper half. Some streaky grayish patina appears on the obverse.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. The top of the 1 points just left of the shield point, and a small die chip connects the left side of the large S mintmark to the feather.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows nine in MS62, five MS63, and two MS64 as finest. NGC reports four each in MS62 and MS63 and two MS64. Only two in MS62, including this piece, have the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1862-S is scarce in all grades, usually found well-circulated and/or with problematic surfaces of some sort. Nonetheless, Gene Gardner's finest example of this issue was an MS64 PCGS piece.

Provenance: *Herman Halpern Collection (Stack's, 5/1999), lot 2212. NGC ID# 23TW, PCGS# 5457*

1863 Seated Quarter, Sharp MS65
Bold Die Clashing on Both Sides



98452 1863 MS65 NGC. CAC. Briggs 1-A. An interesting and unusual-looking coin, showing bold die clashing on both sides but especially prominent on the obverse. A rather large thumbprint appears in the toning on the obverse, along with rich sunset-orange, gray, copper, and deep rose patina.

Variety: Briggs 1-A but a later die state, boldly die-clashed on the obverse with lesser — but still prominent — signs of clashing on the reverse. A notch on the underside of the thin flag atop the 1, and the 3 is quite open with tiny balls. A die scratch shows behind the eagle's left heel.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows 12 in MS65 with seven MS66 (one MS66+) finer. PCGS reports 19 in MS65 and eight MS66 (one MS66+) finer

Heritage Commentary: This mid-Civil War date saw a moderate mintage for a P-mint of 191,140 circulation strikes, down from 932,000 pieces the year before, but it is available up through the Gem level. Gene Gardner also owned an MS66 NGC-CAC example. That coin was lot 98373 in our Gardner Part II Signature (Heritage, 10/2014), which realized \$6,463.

Provenance: *Purchased from Bill Nagle (8/2006). NGC ID# 23TX, PCGS# 5458*

**1864 Quarter, Frosty MS66
Low-Mintage Civil War Date**



98453 1864 MS66 NGC. CAC. Briggs 1-A. Gleaming, frosty luster with modest hints of reflectivity in the fields proceeds from both sides of this lightly toned Premium Gem 1864 Seated quarter, a popular Civil War-era issue struck to the extent of a meager 94,070 circulation coins. Sharply detailed features complement delicate iridescent and champagne-gold shades. Grade-limiting abrasions are virtually nonexistent.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. On the obverse, a pair of die chips show on Liberty's thigh, along with a few spindly peripheral cracks. Clash marks appear in the reverse field above and below the eagle's wings.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports three in MS66 and a lone MS67 finer; PCGS shows three submissions each in MS66 and MS67 with a sole MS68 finest. This is the only MS66 example with the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: With the Civil War raging and circulating silver absent from (or hoarded in) most areas of the United States, the Philadelphia Mint had little reason to produce a large number of quarters in 1864. Gene Gardner's top-graded example of this date was an MS67 PCGS-CAC coin, lot 98351 in our Gardner Part III Signature (Heritage, 5/2015), over which 14 different bidders fought to achieve the final hammer price of \$35,250.

Provenance: Santa Clara Signature (Heritage, 11/2002), lot 7033. NGC ID# 23TY, PCGS# 5459

**1864-S Quarter, Elusive MS64
Sole Mint State Example With CAC Approval**



98454 1864-S MS64 NGC. CAC. Briggs 1-A. Nicely frosted silver-gray surfaces display ample luster and traces of golden-rose patina that congregate largely around the obverse rim. The strike is sharp, save for a few of the star centers on the lower-right side, and the reverse is uniformly bold. A great coin with much eye appeal.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. Recutting shows on the 18 in the date, and the large S mintmark is shifted slightly left but separated from the stem-fetchings juncture.

Population Data (9/15): The only Mint State examples at PCGS are two submissions, both MS64. In Mint State NGC reports one MS63, three MS64, one MS65, and one MS68 — the Eliasberg coin. This is the sole MS64 (and the sole Mint State example) with the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: It is doubtful that another example with either more appeal or in a higher grade could be obtained, given the apparent existence of only one MS65 and one MS68. It appears that CAC is really demanding on Seated quarters: This is not only the sole CAC example in MS64 and the sole Mint State coin, it is currently the only 1864-S with the CAC green approval above XF45.

Consignor Commentary: A prohibitively rare High R.7 in Mint State, according to both Briggs and Breen (not hard to understand with a total mintage of only 20,000), and the pops still bear this out. A few stray marks on both sides are consistent with the assigned grade.

Provenance: Benson Part I Sale (Goldberg Auctions, 2/2001), lot 1633. NGC ID# 23TZ, PCGS# 5460

1867 Quarter, Choice AU
Only 20,000 Coins Struck



98455 1867 AU55 NGC. Briggs 1-A. The surfaces feature slate-blue and violet-gray patina overall. Peripheral ochre accents appear on the obverse, while glints of peach-orange occur centrally on the reverse. This minimally abraded Choice AU Seated quarter is typically struck with light friction over the high points. Still, the design definition remains crisp with visible star centers and abundant detail on the lower portion of the eagle.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. The date is level. Stars 3 to 5 and 9 to 12 are recut.

Population Data (9/15): Each firm reports two examples in AU55. There are 16 finer submissions at NGC and 24 at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: Although silver coins were rarely encountered in circulation on the East Coast from the time of the Civil War until the mid- to late 1870s, Seated quarters were still struck for export abroad. In so doing, the Mint could still make a seignorage profit, as American silver coins were worth more than bullion value in places like Canada and Latin America. Only 20,000 quarters were struck at Philadelphia in 1867. The issue is rare in About Uncirculated condition and very rare in Mint State.

Provenance: 72nd Anniversary Sale (Stack's, 10/2007), lot 4978. NGC ID# 23UD, PCGS# 5470

1867 Quarter, Untoned MS63
Underrated Low-Mintage Date



98456 1867 MS63 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-A. This frost-white coin is virtually a twin for another in this auction struck from these same dies but graded MS63+ PCGS. This piece, like its sibling, show extensive die lapping and subsequent die clashing on portions of Liberty's gown, her stomach area, BER, and the area right of the shield on the obverse, and the ribbon left of IN on the reverse. The obverse die also shows extensive signs of clashing, both on the devices (which are lowered due to the lapping) and in the left obverse field before Liberty's face. Patches of abrasions appear to the left of the date and to the right of Liberty on the obverse; the reverse shows a few ticks but is better-preserved overall.

Variety: Briggs 1-A, lapped and clashed. Stars 3-5 and 9-12 show recutting, as do several of the letters along the reverse periphery.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows five submissions in MS63 (one MS63+), and there are four MS64 finer. NGC shows two MS63 and one finer, an MS66.

Heritage Commentary: This important, if somewhat neglected issue was struck to the meager extent of 20,000 business strikes, hardly enough to ensure a supply of Mint State coins today.

Provenance: Stamford Coinfest Signature (10/2010), lot 3588. NGC ID# 23UD, PCGS# 5470

1867 Quarter, Frosty MS63+
Lapped, Clashed Obverse Die



98457 1867 MS63+ PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-A. This frost-white coin shows strong luster and a decent strike. The obverse die exhibits signs of zealous lapping, however, that has removed considerable detail around Liberty's stomach and dress, particularly to the right of the shield. Bold die clashing covers those areas of the devices, making the coin even more interesting, if peculiar. Usually, die clashing is more visible in the *fields*, but here, it is visible on the lowered *devices* as well. More die lapping appears on the reverse, where the ribbon just left of IN is quite light. The strike is bold elsewhere.

Variety: Briggs 1-A, lapped and clashed. Deep die lapping has effaced portions of Liberty's stomach area and weakened BER on the ribbon. Q and OL in the denomination are recut.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows five submissions in MS63 including this piece, the sole MS63+, and there are four MS64 finer. NGC shows three MS63 and one finer, an MS66.

Heritage Commentary: This piece was one of six examples of the 1867 quarter in Gene Gardner's collection, including two MS64, three MS63 (including this MS63+), and one AU55.

Provenance: 75th Anniversary Sale (Stack's, 11/2010), lot 5104. NGC ID# 23UD, PCGS# 5470

1867 Quarter, Underrated MS64
Low-Mintage Issue of 20,000 Pieces
One Coin Graded Finer



98458 1867 MS64 PCGS. Briggs 1-A. This magnificent near-Gem 1867 quarter exhibits soft luster filtering through rich patina, a mix of rose and blue on the obverse with navy and violet across the reverse. The strike is quite strong, and only a few small marks are consistent with the grade. Certified in an early small-size PCGS green-label holder. Extensive die lapping and subsequent die clashing on portions of Liberty's gown, stomach area, BER, and the area right of the shield on the obverse, and the ribbon left of IN on the reverse.

Variety: Briggs 1-A, lapped and clashed.

Population Data (9/15): This piece is tied for the finest at PCGS with two other submissions in MS64. NGC shows none in MS64 but one finer, an MS66.

Heritage Commentary: Gene Gardner owned six examples of the 1867 quarter, five in Mint State, with this and one other MS64 PCGS coin tied for the finest. The other MS64 PCGS piece was lot 30386 in our Gardner Part I Signature (Heritage, 6/2014), where it realized \$14,100. Many of the high-grade survivors of this issue that appear in our Permanent Auction Archives are of the Briggs 1-A die pair. The 1867 issue was struck to the extent of only 20,000 pieces, and as noted above, only one coin is currently known above the Gem grade level.

Provenance: Houston Signature (Heritage, 12/2010), lot 3532. NGC ID# 23UD, PCGS# 5470

1868 Seated Quarter, Appealing MS65
Low-Mintage Date



98459 1868 MS65 NGC. Copious mint luster runs over rose-gray and lilac surfaces bounded by a ring of aqua patina at the rims on each side. Sharply struck surfaces are the rule throughout. A few scattered marks are minor but hold the coin back from an MS66 grade. The eye appeal is excellent.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. Die lines between the Liberty pole and the forearm accompany others appearing at the end of the ribbon and into the drapery. The shield on reverse shows many diagonal die lines, and recutting is present on some of the letters in the denomination.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows three submissions in MS65 and a single MS66 finer. PCGS reports four in MS65 with one each in MS66 and MS66+ finer.

Heritage Commentary: The mintage of 29,400 coins puts this issue into the “underrated” category along with the 1867 quarters, although the 1868 is more available in Gem grade. Gene Gardner also owned an MS66 example of this date, a PCGS coin that was lot 30387 in our Gardner Part I Signature (Heritage, 6/2014), which realized \$61,688.

Provenance: Purchased from Bill Nagle (9/2001). NGC ID# 23UF, PCGS# 5472

1868-S Quarter, MS64
Seldom Seen in Mint State



98460 1868-S MS64 PCGS. Briggs 1-A. This near-Gem 1868-S Seated quarter offers creamy mint luster and partial blue-violet and gold patina, most visibly at the reverse margins. The surfaces are strongly struck, save for the uppermost obverse stars, and no singularly mentionable abrasions can be found on either side.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. The sole die pair known for the issue, showing minor die cracks below stars 1 and 13.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows four MS64 (one MS64+) with one each in MS65+ and MS67 finer. NGC reports two in MS64, one in MS65, and three in MS66.

Heritage Commentary: The 1868-S continues the tradition of scarcity from the West Coast facility in spite of a mintage that should indicate greater availability. The end of the Civil War seemed to have no impact on the high attrition rate of S-mint silver coins, as they continued to circulate just as heavily after the war as they had during it. The 1868-S has a mintage of 96,000 pieces, but its availability in better grades is equal to a Philadelphia Mint coin with only a fraction of that production.

Provenance: R.L. Miles Sale (Stack's, 4/1969); Auction '86 (Stack's Session, 7/1986), lot 146; Nevada Collection of Seated Quarters (Heritage, 9/2008), lot 1535; purchased from David Lawrence (9/2012). NGC ID# 23UG, PCGS# 5473

1869-S Quarter, Vibrant MS64
Extremely Elusive Any Finer



98461 1869-S MS64 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-A. Glowing, lustrous silver-white surfaces show a thin ring of rose around the margins, more prominent on the obverse. Numerous die cracks connect the peripheral elements on that side. The strike is quite sharp overall, although several of the stars lack central details. Great eye appeal appears on this conditionally scarce example of a low-mintage date.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. An extra 86 lurks in the denticles below the date. The lower loop of the 9 is struck over another 9, and the 8 and 6 look recut as well. **Die State:** Numerous die cracks appear on the obverse: 1 in the date-rock-stars 1 and 2-rim; stars 5-9 including the head and cap-rim; above star 11-stars 12 and 13-sandal-base of rock.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports two MS64 submissions (including this piece) and one MS65 finer. NGC data show three in MS64 with one MS66 finer. Two in MS64 have the green CAC approval, including this piece.

Heritage Commentary: It is highly doubtful that the seven grading events in MS64 or finer at both services combined represent seven separate coins. Try to find a Gem or better example: It has been more than 15 years since we offered one. Gene Gardner also owned a second MS64 PCGS-CAC example that was lot 98378 in the Gardner Part II Signature (Heritage, 10/2014), which realized \$10,869.

Consignor Commentary: This coin is a perfect match for Larry Briggs' description of the Briggs 1-A. The only exception comes when he notes that "AU-UNC coins have pale subdued washed out luster." Not true of this lovely, vibrant coin. The MS66 appears to be the Eliasberg coin — the finest known — even though the coin is considerably whiter now than the coin described in that catalog. But the current coin may still qualify for the Condition Census.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (8/2000). NGC ID# 442N, PCGS# 5475

1871 Seated Quarter, Appealing MS65
Sole CAC Example in This Grade



98462 1871 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-A. The satiny dove-gray surfaces are complemented by liberal copper-gold accents outlining the devices and clustering near the rims on each side. Although this Gem appears to be struck from the proof dies, the reverse is struck more sharply overall than the obverse, where most of the star centers are flat. A few scattered abrasions are minor and grade-consistent. Certified in a green-label holder, this piece displays excellent eye appeal.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. The proof dies, showing a die rust lump on the drapery fold up and right from the Y in LIBERTY. The folds on the scroll on the reverse are faint due to die lapping.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports three in MS65 with one MS67+ and one MS68 finer. NGC shows four in MS65 and one MS66 finer. The present coin is the sole MS65 with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: Gene Gardner's highest-graded coin for this slot was a gorgeous MS67 NGC example, later crossed to MS67+ PCGS-CAC, that was lot 30389 in our Gardner Part I Signature (Heritage, 7/2014), where it brought \$32,900.

Provenance: LaRiviere Part III, et al. Sale (Bowers and Merena (5/2001), lot 1465. NGC ID# 23UM, PCGS# 5478



1871-CC Seated Quarter, AU55
The Sole Finest Non-Mint State Example
Gene Gardner's 'Backup Coin'



98463 1871-CC AU55 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-A. The surfaces of this marvelous rarity in the Seated quarter series are quite well-struck — an unusual trait when one thinks of CC-mint quarters overall but, in fact, typical for this issue. A light wash of rose-gold prevails overall, with some deeper smoke-gray toning showing around Liberty's head and the upper obverse fields. Light high-point rub is present, consistent with the grade, and a few small marks aid in identifying this piece — on Liberty's left (facing) forearm, the left calf, and one in the field out from the chin, near star 6. A tiny mark shows between stars 2 and 3. Minor marks on the reverse are mostly between the eagle's left wing and beak.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. Tripling shows under the first 1 and above the second 1 in the date, and a die lump appears on Liberty's gown right of the Y in LIBERTY. The reverse die is the same as Briggs' Reverse A of 1870, the two C's in the mintmark even, widely separated, with the first C near the lower tip of the fletchings.

Population Data (9/15): At the XF40 grade level or better, PCGS reports one XF40, one XF45, two AU50, one AU53, one AU55 (this piece), and one MS65. In XF or better, NGC shows two AU50, one AU53, and one MS65.

Heritage Commentary

The Issue. The 1871-CC Seated quarter is far rarer than even the meager mintage of 10,890 pieces would explain, and the reasons for that rarity are poorly understood today. The grade distribution of the paucity of survivors certainly indicates that heavy circulation was the order of the day for the issue. Rusty Goe writes in the *Battle Born* catalog (Stack's Bowers, 8/2012), lot 11092 — the MS65 PCGS-CAC example that Gene Gardner acquired to upgrade the present piece — that “fewer than 18 or so pieces qualify for condition ratings above Fine.” A partial explanation may lie in a potential *mass melting* that took place two years later in 1873, when the Arrows design marked a slight increase in net silver content of the minor denominations. And what of the few high-grade survivors? Goe posits in *The Mint on Carson City*:

“The odd amount of \$22.50 face value, or 90 individual quarters was included in the first delivery total for 1871, probably representing the amount divided between assay coins, and those distributed to key residents in the area. Readers will also remember that in 1870 a somewhat extraneous total of 40 quarters was minted at Carson City for similar purposes. Today's depleted populations of 1871-CC quarters imply that no more than 90 pieces ever escaped from storage vaults at the Carson Mint.”

This Example. This remarkable offering of a second high-grade 1871-CC Seated quarter in the Gene Gardner Collection demonstrates a remarkable point about the collection as a whole: It is important not only in the *depth* of the coins it contains, but it is also a collection of notable *breadth*. Gene Gardner's top-grade 1871-CC — a cornerstone of any world-class collection of this series — was an MS65 PCGS coin, tied with the Eliasberg Collection MS65 NGC for finest known, and a matter of subjective choice which coin is actually the finest.

This offering of a second 1871-CC, a Choice AU PCGS coin, is a simply stunning reminder of how vast the selection is of the high-grade, notable rarities that constitute the Gardner Collection. This coin is extremely important to serious collectors of Seated quarters, as the sole highest-graded AU example of this key date that is not actually Mint State, a level where only three pieces are known.

Consignor Commentary

In November 1992 Doug Barr wrote an article (republished in the *Gobrecht Journal*, Vol. IV, page 389) detailing the Condition Census for this date. And in the 20-plus intervening years, nothing seems to have changed. He listed three Uncirculated specimens with the James A. Stack coin just nudging out the Norweb coin for top honors, followed by the Eliasberg piece (a few years later Briggs placed the Eliasberg coin first). The coin listed here, the Miles coin, placed fourth, and was the only AU specimen known at the time. The population reports of today continue to confirm this ranking, although one of the three Uncirculated coins, an MS64 PCGS from the Kennywood Collection (American Numismatic Rarities, 1/2005) appears at some point to have been delisted. This coin remains alone in fourth place at AU55. The coin has remarkably clean surfaces free of nicks or marks, with only light rub on the high points of Liberty's figure.

Condition Census of 1871-CC Seated Quarters

Only three Mint State examples of the 1871-CC quarter are known between PCGS and NGC combined, along with three AU coins, of which Gene Gardner's appears to be clearly the finest. To our knowledge (and despite the population reports), there are no other distinct survivors of this issue finer than the XF grade levels.

1. MS65 PCGS. CAC. Earlier provenance uncertain, although researchers have speculated that quarter specialist Ard W. Browning (of the eponymous reference work) may have owned this piece at one time; Giacomo Opezzo sale (Stack's, 8/1941), lot 1865; James A. Stack Collection (Stack's, 3/1975), lot 130, where it was cataloged as “Brilliant Uncirculated Gem, Unique in Mint State”; Reed Hawn Collection (Stack's, 3/1977), lot 365; Fred Sweeney; Mulford B. Simons, Jr.; Ron Iskowitz; Steve Innarelli; Rusty Goe (2001); Battle Born Collection / Philadelphia ANA (Stack's Bowers, 8/2012), lot 11092; Eugene H. Gardner; Gardner Part I Signature (Heritage, 6/2014), lot 30390.

2. MS65 NGC. F.C.C. Boyd; World's Greatest Collection (Numismatic Gallery, 3/1945); Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; Eliasberg Collection (Bowers and Merena, 4/1997), lot 1497.

3. MS64 PCGS. Ambassador and Mrs. R. Henry Norweb; Norweb Collection, Part II (Bowers and Merena, 3/1988), lot 1640; William Greene; Greene Collection (Superior, 2/1998), lot 2033; Nevada Collection (Heritage, 8/1999), lot 6279; Kennywood Collection (American Numismatic Rarities, 1/2005), lot 443. Now delisted from the PCGS *Population Report* for reasons that are unclear. (The NGC *Census Report* continues to show only one submission in MS65 NGC and no other Mint State coins, so it seems impossible that this piece could now be in an NGC holder.) *There could be numerous reasons for this: Duplications do not seem likely, given the distinctive appearance of each Mint State survivor, including this one. A “crossover” to a PCGS holder also seems unlikely, given the existence of a sole Mint State NGC coin, the Eliasberg piece. Another possibility exists. Some purists prefer their coins unslabbed, or “cracked out,” Haig A. Koshkarian being one notable such collector from recent times, whose noteworthy type collection and other material was auctioned by American Numismatic Rarities in March 2004. (We have no reason to believe that Dr. Koshkarian had anything to do with this particular coin, however.)*

4. AU55 PCGS. R.L. Miles, Jr.; Miles Collection (Stack's, 4/1969); Willing Collection (Bowers and Ruddy, 6/1976), lot 74; Stack's (3/1979), lot 2139; New York Signature (Heritage, 6/2005), lot 5510, bought in; Legend Numismatics; purchased from Legend Numismatics (1/2009). **The present example.**

5. AU53 PCGS. Goldberg Auctions (5/2006), lot 1773; Dallas Signature (Heritage, 11/2006), lot 635, bought in.

6. AU53 NGC. Richmond Collection (David Lawrence, 3/2005), lot 1473.

Provenance: See #4 above. NGC ID# 23UN, PCGS# 5479

1871-S Quarter, Radiant Gem
Semikey Issue and a Condition Rarity



98464 1871-S MS65 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-A. The star radials are fully defined on this remarkable semikey representative, while the eagle's wing feathers, talons, and fletchings are similarly strong. Each side exhibits radiant mint frost over brilliant surfaces with only the occasional blush of golden-tan patina. Light, thin grazes in the fields and a few well-hidden ticks in the drapery preclude an even higher grade.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. The only dies for the issue show the right edge of the 1 aligned with the shield point. The reverse has a Small S mintmark centered over the R in QUAR.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports three in MS65 and five in MS66 (two MS66+). NGC shows a single Gem submission and none finer. This is the lone MS65 with the green CAC approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: In spite of his penchant for dramatically toned coins, Gene Gardner clearly could not resist this frosty, nearly all-brilliant Gem. The 1871-S claims a meager mintage of just 30,900 coins and high rate of attrition from extensive circulation, contributing to the issue's extreme rarity at this grade level. In fact, this is the first time we have offered a Gem representative since the introduction of our Auction Archives in 1993, and the only finer example we have handled was a single Premium Gem from the Gardner Collection, Part I in June 2014.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (10/2001). NGC ID# 23UP, PCGS# 5480

1873 Arrows Quarter, MS64
Blended Antique Patina



98465 1873 Arrows MS64 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 2-A. The hallmark of this Choice 1873 Arrows quarter is its beautifully original toning. Blended antique shades of gold, amber, mahogany, and violet paint each side, concealing small, stray marks that only become evident upon close study. The obverse peripheries are lightly struck, but the central motifs and entire reverse are well-defined.

Variety: Briggs 2-A. The irregular date slopes gently upward from left to right.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 36 Choice submissions and 27 finer. NGC shows 34 and 16 in those same levels. This piece is among six so graded with the CAC green bean.

Heritage Commentary: This Philadelphia issue has the highest mintage among Arrows quarters by far (1.2 million coins struck). Examples are obtainable through MS64, making the 1873 Arrows a favorite among enthusiasts in search of a representative of this short-lived type. Keep in mind, however, that few survivors are as overtly original and eye-appealing as the near-Gem offered here.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (3/2007). NGC ID# BZMG, PCGS# 5491

1873-CC Arrows Quarter, AU55
Carson City Key Date
Only Two Known Finer



98466 1873-CC Arrows AU55 PCGS. Briggs 1-A. An important Condition Census representative, this Choice AU key-date 1873-CC Arrows quarter is toned in variegated olive-gray and slate-blue shades that lighten somewhat over the obverse. Light blending is confined to the highest points of the design, and the only mentionable abrasions are located on the obverse over and around Liberty's portrait. A series of small toning spots are scattered over the obverse. A reverse lamination (as-struck) through DOL is the most useful pedigree marker.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. The only dies for the issue. The reverse was previously used for the 1870-CC.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS counts two AU55 submissions, one MS64, and one MS65. The finest at NGC is a single AU50 example. The MS65 PCGS represents the Norweb-Stellar coin, formerly MS65 NGC and still recorded at that service. The MS64 PCGS is the Eliasberg-Battle Born-Gardner coin.

Heritage Commentary: The Mint Act of February 12, 1873 increased the weight of the quarter from 6.22 gm to 6.25 gm. Arrows were added to the obverse at both sides of the date to denote the change — a practice that continued through the following year. The Carson City Mint produced only one issue of the Arrows, Motto type, the 1873-CC. Just 12,462 coins were produced, and most spent years in circulation. The typical survivor grades just shy of VF20, and opportunities to acquire high-grade representatives from this issue are nearly as rare as the coins themselves.

Provenance: *Central States Signature* (Heritage, 4/2002), lot 5551; *Jones Beach Collection / FUN Signature* (Heritage, 1/2007), lot 911. NGC ID# BZMH, PCGS# 5492

1873-S Arrows Quarter, MS64
Condition Census Offering
Ex: Richmond Collection



98467 1873-S Arrows MS64 NGC. Briggs 2-B. Ex: Richmond Collection. Mottled champagne-gold, russet, and olive hues embrace surfaces that remain frosty and brilliant beneath the iridescent patina. The left-hand stars are fully detailed, while the right-hand stars are typically flat, diagnostic of the variety. The eagle is boldly defined with a touch of softness on the olive leaves. A few small, dark toning spots on the reverse are the simplest pedigree markers. Wonderful preservation and eye appeal.

Variety: Briggs 2-B. This variety has an even date with the right edge of the 1 left of vertical line 7 in the shield. The reverse has a Small Tapered S mintmark and a die clash mark above the eagle's left (facing) wing.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows 10 submissions in MS64 (likely including one or more resubmissions) with a single MS65 finer. PCGS reports one MS64 and two MS65.

Heritage Commentary: Nearly the entire mintage of 156,000 coins entered into the channels of commerce, making the 1873-S very rare in all Mint State grades. The issue is the second-rarest Arrows quarter issue after the 1873-CC in high grades. Collectors seeking an example through AU condition should have little difficulty, but for those who demand one of perhaps 25 Uncirculated coins extant, patience is key. This Condition Census offering is a not-to-be-missed opportunity for series specialists.

Provenance: Richmond Collection, Part III (David Lawrence Rare Coins, 3/2005), lot 1483. NGC ID# BZMM, PCGS# 5493

1873-S Arrows Quarter, MS65
Tied for Finest Graded



98468 1873-S Arrows MS65 NGC. Briggs 1-A. This coin has everything going for it: the Arrows type, the popular S mintmark, and the Gem grade that makes it a condition rarity. Coruscating mint frost and lovely original patina seal the deal, blending deep steel-blue hues with daubs of pinkish-gold. The strike is bold throughout, save for a few of the star centers on the obverse.

Variety: Briggs 1-A, with an irregular, downward-sloping date and a Small S mintmark.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports this sole MS65 and one other in MS65+, while PCGS accounts for two MS65. Neither firm reports a finer submission.

Heritage Commentary: The mintage of the 1873-S Arrows quarter was just 156,000 coins, and most survivors are well-circulated. For a sense of the significance of Gene Gardner's set within the scope of American numismatics, consider that both the Eliasberg and Pittman collections lacked high-grade examples. Conversely, the Gardner Collection lays claim to tied-for-finest examples at NGC and PCGS, plus an MS64 NGC tied for second place on the Condition Census. A seemingly impossible feat, unlikely to ever be replicated.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 9/2010), lot 3936; U.S. Coins Signature (Heritage, 8/2012), lot 5119; purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (9/2012). NGC ID# BZMM, PCGS# 5493

1874-S Arrows Quarter, MS67
Tied for Finest Certified



98469 1874-S Arrows MS67 NGC. **Briggs 1-A.** Brilliant powder-blue surfaces peak through a veil of dappled golden-tan, olive, and russet patina that encompasses the majority of each side. Frosty S-mint luster shines through the toning, enhancing the eye appeal. Strongly defined motifs show nearly complete star centers and bold detail on the eagle's feathers and talons.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. The left base of the 1 and the base of the 7 are both positioned above the right edges of the dentils below.

Population Data (9/15): The finest survivors are 10 Superb Gems at NGC and four others at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: Most San Francisco issues of this period are seldom encountered in high grades, as they circulated heavily and were considered of little numismatic significance. However, a small cache of between 80 to as many as 400 1874-S quarters is reported to have been found either on the West Coast, Mexico, or elsewhere in Latin America. Details of the location and size of the hoard vary by source, including Walter Breen, Q. David Bowers, and John J. Ford, Jr. While the hoard likely contained dozens of high-end Mint State coins, few are as pristine as this Superb Gem.

Provenance: *Oliver Jung Collection (American Numismatic Rarities, 7/2004), lot 53. NGC ID# 23VY, PCGS# 5495*

1875 Quarter, High-End MS66
Splendid Original Surfaces



98470 1875 MS66 PCGS. **CAC. Briggs-Unlisted.** The obverse exhibits a medley of violet, rose, and cobalt-blue patina, while the reverse offers ice-blue centers that turn to mint-green, yellow, and reddish-orange at the rims. Glowing cartwheel luster shines throughout. The design motif detail is generally strong aside for trivial softness on Liberty's head and the lower portion of the eagle. A splendidly original Premium Gem with a tiny nick on the left elbow.

Variety: Briggs-Unlisted. Type Two reverse, short serifs on TAT in STATES. The right edge of the 1 is left of the seventh vertical shield line. A die lump appears northwest of the serif of the 1. Numerous faint die cracks occur on each side.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of 19 MS66 grading events at PCGS with four finer. NGC reports nine Premium Gems with seven finer. Four in this grade bear the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: Given the high mintage of nearly 4.3 million coins, additional varieties are bound to be discovered. Briggs only documented three circulation-strike die pairs in his 1991 reference and noted: "Several other minor varieties exist in the business strike issues, none seemingly rare."

Consignor Commentary: The reverse is interesting, as the vertical lines in the shield have been heavily reworked. Lines 1 and 2 are very thin with the bottom ends almost erased. The location where these two lines meet the outside of the shield is also disturbed. All other vertical lines heavily recut. A die break around the circumference extends from the eagle's left wing tip all the way around the bottom of the coin to the R in AMERICA. A beauty for the grade.

Provenance: *Robert Michael Prescott Collection (American Numismatic Rarities, 1/2006), lot 396. NGC ID# 23UX, PCGS# 5498*

1876 Seated Quarter, MS66
Luminous, Splendidly Toned Type Coin



98471 1876 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 3-C. Glowing luster illuminates surfaces toned in pastel shades of violet, blue, green, and orange. Liberty's head and the eagle's features are exceptionally sharp. Stars 1 to 3 show faint centers, while the remaining stars are typically flat. A carefully preserved, eye-catching, and overtly original Premium Gem.

Variety: Briggs 3-C. The date position, the base of an extra 1 left of the original 1, and the tops of 18 punched in the dentils below and slightly right of the original 18 in the date identify the obverse. A clash mark above the eagle's left wing confirms the reverse die.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS records 24 submitted in MS66 (three in MS66+) with eight submissions finer. This is one of three at CAC with the green approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: Only the 1853 Arrows and Rays quarter rivals this Philadelphia issue (17.8 million coins minted) in terms of overall availability. As usual for the series, however, high-grade survivors are rare. This amazing example displays a light die crack that connects stars 5 and 6.

Provenance: ANA National Money Show Auction (*Bowers and Merena*, 4/2005), lot 449. NGC ID# 23V2, PCGS# 5501

1876 Quarter, MS67
Among the Finest Certified



98472 1876 MS67 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-B. Intensely lustrous with a richly frosted sheen, this coin displays soft champagne-gold and violet patina with delicate blue-green peripheral toning. The colors yield to brilliance in the center reverse. Both sides are crisply detailed with full stars and no abrasions of note.

Variety: Briggs 1-B, Type Two Reverse. The position of the date and diagnostic die cracks encompassing each side confirm this variety.

Population Data (9/15): There are 14 MS67 grading events tied for finest at both services combined. PCGS reports eight (one in MS67+), while NGC shows six such submissions, including one each with Plus and Star designations.

Heritage Commentary: This issue's original mintage of 17.8 million pieces is the highest in the entire Seated quarter series of 1838-1891. Along with the 1853 Arrows and Rays, the 1876 is the most frequently offered date in today's market. However, all but a small group of 1876-P quarters grade below the Superb Gem level. This coin was originally included in Gene Gardner's primary set before he acquired the sole MS67+ PCGS example in November 2012.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (*Heritage*, 2/2003), lot 5501; Pittsburgh Signature (*Heritage*, 8/2004), lot 4030. NGC ID# 23V2, PCGS# 5501

1876-CC Quarter, MS65
Rarely Seen in This High Grade



98473 1876-CC MS65 PCGS. Briggs-Unlisted. Thickly frosted motifs provide the obverse, displaying peripheral golden-tan patina and largely untuned centers, with a marked semiprooflike appearance. The reverse shows pleasing gold and lilac-toned interiors that progress to shades of orange and purple-blue at the rims. The strike definition is particularly bold on the stars, and only the lower portion of the eagle exhibits faint incompleteness. Lightly scattered marks occur on each side.

Variety: Unlisted in Briggs. The 1 is positioned between shield verticals 6 and 7. The Type Two reverse (narrow feet on the A in STATES) shows a Small CC mintmark with the second C positioned higher than the first. A die crack joins the last A in AMERICA with all three arrowheads and runs through the denomination to the olive leaves.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 29 in MS65 (one MS65+) with 10 finer. NGC shows 18 in MS65 (one MS65+) and 13 finer.

Heritage Commentary: A mintage approaching 5 million coins represents the pinnacle of quarter dollar production at the Carson City Mint and ensures the 1876-CC as one of the most plentiful CC issues through Choice condition. Gems such as this, however, are rare.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (11/2001). NGC ID# 23V3, PCGS# 5502

1876-S Quarter, MS66
Tied for Finest Certified



98474 1876-S MS66 NGC. Briggs-Unlisted. Rings of mottled cobalt-blue, violet, and golden-russet toning frame silver-gray centers on each side. This lovely Premium Gem is well-struck with tiny ticks scattered throughout. Only a thin graze between the eagle's beak and left (facing) wingtip merits mention.

Variety: Unlisted in the Briggs reference (1991). The right edge of the 1 is aligned left of the seventh vertical shield line, the Medium S mintmark is positioned over the right edge of the R in QUAR., and a die crack connects the olive leaves to the denomination, ending below the arrowheads.

Population Data (9/15): Nine at NGC in MS66 and five in the same grade at PCGS are the finest submissions.

Heritage Commentary: The 1876-S (8.5 million coins struck) is an available date in most grades, but well-preserved examples are conditionally rare. Silver continued to circulate in the American West during the 1860s and 1870s, while the white metal was largely hoarded in the East. Silver premiums declined in the Atlantic states after 1871 as the price of the metal fell, but coins still circulated much more extensively in the Western regions.

Provenance: Purchased from Mark Feld (3/2006). NGC ID# 23V4, PCGS# 5503

1876-S Quarter, MS66
Ex: Pittman, Sharply Struck



98475 1876-S MS66 NGC. Briggs-Unlisted. Ex: Pittman. The warm rose-gold tints that drape the lustrous obverse show considerable blue intermixed on the reverse. Excellent design definition and preservation with eye appeal to match both.

Variety: Briggs-Unlisted, Type Two Reverse. The right edge of the 1 is aligned with the shield point, and the left base of the 1 is centered over a dentil. A small die lump occurs on Liberty's chest. The Medium Small S mintmark tilts slightly left and is positioned just left of center under intersection of the olive branch and the eagle's tail feather.

Population Data (9/15): NGC and PCGS report nine and five submissions, respectively, of the issue in MS66 with none finer at either service.

Heritage Commentary: *The Comprehensive Encyclopedia of United States Liberty Seated Quarters* explains that the 1876-S usually comes more weakly struck than most other San Francisco issues. However, this Premium Gem is as well-detailed as one may hope to find for a circulation strike from this series.

Provenance: John Jay Pittman; Pittman Collection, Part II (David Akers, 5/1998), lot 1357; Dallas Signature (Heritage, 10/2009), lot 520. NGC ID# 23V4, PCGS# 5503

1877 Quarter, MS67
Marvelously Toned Type Coin



98476 1877 MS67 PCGS. Briggs-Unlisted. The central obverse is frosty and brilliant, surrounded by blushes of golden-champagne toning at the borders. Violet interiors progress to navy-blue margins on the reverse. The stars are sharply impressed, and the surfaces are nearly unimprovable aside from two reeding marks adjacent to the right ribbon end on the reverse.

Variety: Briggs-Unlisted. Each side shows myriad die cracks and clash marks. The right edge of the 1 is aligned with vertical line 7 in the shield. The date slopes slightly upward.

Population Data (6/15): PCGS reports 44 grading events in MS67 (two in MS67+) with three finer. NGC has seen 40 submissions in the same grade (three MS67+, five MS67 ★) plus nine in MS68.

Heritage Commentary: This coin was replaced in Gene Gardner's primary set by an MS68 NGC. His commentary below seems harsh, given the coin's impressive grade and attractive toning. Perhaps it speaks to his exacting standards for quality when putting together one of the most, if not *the* most, impressive Seated Liberty collections ever assembled.

Consignor Commentary: Not exactly a rarity even at this level, as there are 84 coins in MS67 and 12 in MS68 between PCGS and NGC. The Centennial must have changed the country into a nation of coin collectors. As one might imagine for an issue with such a high mintage, the dies were pretty well worn, and the strike at best average. But the coin does have good luster and is prettily toned.

Provenance: Purchased from Wayne Herndon (11/2004). NGC ID# 23V5, PCGS# 5504

1877-CC Quarter, MS66
Sharp CC-Mint Type Coin



98477 1877-CC MS66 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-A. Dappled magenta, antique-gold, and steel-blue toning blankets both sides. The design features are well-impressed, and the lustrous surfaces are virtually devoid of mentionable marks. An ideal Carson City type candidate.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. The bases of the 7s in the date are repunched, as on many of the Uncirculated survivors of this issue.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 18 submissions in MS66 (six MS66+) and six MS67 finer, up through a single MS67+. NGC shows 16 in MS66 (four MS66+) and also six in MS67.

Heritage Commentary: The Carson City branch mint struck just shy of 4.2 million quarters in 1877, representing one of the highest production totals for the facility in the Seated quarter series. The relative availability of examples through Superb Gem condition makes the issue an ideal date for type purposes, and the visual appeal of this particular coin heightens its desirability.

Provenance: *Central States Signature (Heritage, 5/2005)*, lot 6873. NGC ID# 23V6, PCGS# 5505

1877-S Quarter, MS67
Spectacularly Toned and Razor-Sharp



98478 1877-S MS67 NGC. Briggs 10-I. Splashes of vibrant rainbow hues color most of the obverse, leaving areas of brilliance in the fields. Electric-blue, purple, and magenta toning blankets the entire reverse. Swirling luster emanates from beneath the patina on both sides. Fully struck and impeccably preserved with compelling eye appeal.

Variety: Briggs 10-I.

Population Data (9/15): In MS67, NGC has seen four submissions and PCGS reports two others. A single MS68 at NGC is finer.

Heritage Commentary: From a mintage of 9 million coins, the 1877-S is obtainable virtually across the entire grade spectrum. The issue is among the most plentiful in the series through Choice condition. Gems are seldom seen, and Superb Gems rarely appear at auction. Type and Registry collectors should strongly consider this technically and visually impressive example for their sets.

Provenance: *Purchased from Teletrade (5/2010)*. NGC ID# 23V7, PCGS# 5506

1877-S S Over Horizontal S Quarter, MS65
FS-501, Popular *Guide Book Variety*
Tied for Finest at NGC



98479 1877-S S Over Horizontal S, FS-501, MS65 NGC. Briggs 4-D. Speckles of light orange-gray patina embrace the highly lustrous surfaces of this attractive Gem. The design features exhibit strong strike definition, save for the stars along the right border. Each side is devoid of mentionable contact, and a few light roller marks occur diagonally across the obverse.

Variety: Briggs 4-D, FS-501. The variety is easily identified by the horizontal S mintmark evident beneath the corrected vertical mintmark. Designated as VP-001 on the holder — NGC's Variety Plus attribution.

Population Data (9/15): This Gem is tied with four others for finest at NGC. PCGS reports one MS65 with one MS66 submission finer.

Heritage Commentary: Bill Fivaz and J.T. Stanton write in their *Cherrypickers'* reference: "This is one of the most collectible mintmark varieties in the series, of longstanding fame — cherrypicked back to the 1950s."

Provenance: FUN Signature (*Heritage*, 1/2008), lot 1135. NGC ID# 23V7, PCGS# 145562 Base PCGS# 5507

1878 Quarter, MS66
Among the Finest at Both Services



98480 1878 MS66 NGC. Briggs 3-C. Dazzling cartwheel luster and carefully preserved surfaces make this splendid coin stand out from its peers. The borders exhibit rich apricot and powder-blue coloration, while the centers are untuned. The high points on Liberty show a bit of incompleteness, but the remaining design elements are razor-sharp, especially the stars.

Variety: Briggs 3-C, with a level date. The right edge of the 1 lines up between the sixth and seventh vertical lines in the shield. A die crack encompasses the reverse legends.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports eight submitted in MS66 (three MS66+), while PCGS shows nine in MS66 (one MS66+). Neither service has seen an MS67 or finer — surprising, given a mintage exceeding 2.2 million coins.

Heritage Commentary: Larry Briggs notes that the issue generally comes poorly struck, but this Premium Gem is a fantastic exception. The 1878 is the most challenging P-mint quarter to locate in high grades from the 1870s. The bold strike, wondrous eye appeal, and conditional rarity make this an appealing representative in every possible respect.

Provenance: Central States Signature (*Heritage*, 4/2001), lot 6400; Long Beach Signature (*Heritage*, 9/2003), lot 6674. NGC ID# 23V8, PCGS# 5508

1880 Seated Quarter, MS67
Important Registry Opportunity



98481 1880 MS67 NGC. **Briggs 1-A.** Shades of blue, russet, and violet emerge from the dusky patina that covers each side when held at an angle under a lamp. The design elements are boldly impressed aside from moderate softness on the upper obverse and the olive leaves, as expected for the issue. Virtually unmarked.

Variety: Briggs 1-A, Type Two Reverse. A small die lump occurs on the lower left portion of the 0 in the date.

Population Data (9/15): NGC notes 12 MS67 submissions (one MS67+, one MS67 ★) plus five finer.

Heritage Commentary: This is one of the more sought-after issues in the Seated quarter series. Only 13,600 coins were struck for circulation amid falling silver prices, inflows of coins from Canada and elsewhere, and rampant Morgan dollar production. Many examples were set aside in Uncirculated condition, but only a select few survive in this remarkable grade.

Provenance: Purchased from Bill Nagle (11/2003). NGC ID# 23VC, PCGS# 5512

1880 Quarter, Starkly Contrasted MS67
One Example Finer at PCGS



98482 1880 MS67 PCGS Secure. **CAC. Briggs 1-A.** Thickly frosted and strongly defined motifs contrast against flashy, deeply reflective fields, imbuing this Superb Gem with a decidedly prooflike appearance. A crescent of multicolor toning hugs most of the obverse periphery, leaving the central surfaces and northeast border all brilliant. The reverse is largely untuned with areas of light apricot-tan toning at the upper rim. Phenomenal eye appeal.

Variety: Briggs 1-A, Type Two Reverse.

Population Data (9/15): This coin is tied with 15 others at PCGS, and only a single MS68 has been graded finer by that firm. NGC shows 12 submitted in MS67 (one MS67+, one MS67 ★) with five in MS68 finer. Eight in MS67, including this piece, have the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: This stunning representative combines the desirability of a low mintage with bold strike definition and unaltered, prooflike surfaces. A must-have condition rarity for Registry specialists and Seated collectors alike.

Consignor Commentary: Strikes as sharp as this one always raise the issue regarding proofs versus circulation strikes, especially when the fields are as highly reflective as they are on this coin. Only 13,600 business strikes were minted in 1880, and almost every coin qualifies as a "first strike." A spectacular example.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (7/2010). NGC ID# 23VC, PCGS# 5512

1881 Quarter, MS67
Magnificent Low-Mintage Example



98483 1881 MS67 NGC. CAC. Briggs 1-A. This Superb Gem is richly toned over thickly frosted surfaces. Antique-copper color gives way to golden-olive undertones on the obverse, while the reverse exhibits electric-blue and lilac peripheral shadings around a swath of central apricot-tan patina. Both sides are typically struck and devoid of any noticeable impairments.

Variety: Briggs 1-A.

Population Data (9/15): NGC data report 10 submitted in MS67 (two MS67 ★) with single MS68 finer. PCGS shows seven and one in those same numeric levels, and CAC has approved four in MS67.

Heritage Commentary: Two key factors account for the 1881 being one of the lowest-mintage dates in the series with a production of only 12,000 coins. At the time, resources (i.e. silver bullion and manpower) were directed toward the production of Morgan dollars. Moreover, the face value of quarters exceeded the coins' intrinsic value as the price of silver fell, making it profitable for foreign banks and holders of U.S. silver coins to turn them in to the Treasury Department. As Treasury holdings ballooned, demand (and therefore mintage) declined.

Provenance: *Long Beach Signature* (Heritage, 9/2002), lot 6504. NGC ID# 23VD, PCGS# 5513

1883 Quarter, Colorful MS66
Extraordinarily Bold Stars



98484 1883 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 2-A. The stars on this lavishly patinated Premium Gem show full centers and radial lines. Definition is equally bold on Liberty's head, the eagle's wing feathers, claws, and arrow fletchings. Die polishing has slightly weakened the upper olive leaves and berry. Each side exhibits shimmering luster beneath attractive shades of ice-blue, green, and purple toning with moderate reflectivity in the fields. Marks, of which there are few, are well-hidden.

Variety: Briggs 2-A.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS has seen 19 submissions in MS66 (one in MS66+) and three finer. This is among six in this grade with the CAC green bean.

Heritage Commentary: Reverse A was initially employed to strike 1,039 proofs. Subsequently, imperfections were polished out and the die was used to strike an additional 14,400 coins for circulation.

Provenance: *Cabinet of Lucien M. LaRiviere, Part III* (Bowers and Merena, 5/2001), lot 1478. NGC ID# 23VF, PCGS# 5515

1884 Quarter, Strong MS66
Small Mintage of 8,000 Coins



98485 1884 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-A. Frosty luster cartwheels over surfaces that feature mostly brilliant centers with blushes of original copper-russet toning. The design elements exhibit crisp detail with a hint of softness limited to the upper stars. Close examination with a loupe fails to yield any mentionable impairments aside from an expected number of minuscule ticks. Housed in a green label holder.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. The left base of the 1 in the date is centered over the space between two dentils, distinguishing this circulation strike from a proof.

Population Data (9/15): There are 21 MS66 submissions (two in MS66+) and 11 finer at PCGS. NGC reports 12 in MS66 and nine finer.

Heritage Commentary: Like its P-mint contemporaries, the 1884 was struck to a small extent, as imports from abroad were enough to satisfy transactional demands. Only 8,000 circulation strikes were manufactured along with 875 proofs, restricting the number of coins in today's market.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (2/2007). NGC ID# 23VG, PCGS# 5516

1885 Seated Quarter, MS65
Only 13,600 Coins Struck



98486 1885 MS65 NGC. CAC. Briggs 2-A. Violet-toned centers turn to blue, green, and orange peripheral hues on the obverse. Similarly, pale-lilac patina colors the interior reverse, while the outer areas show mostly orange shades with blue-green accents. Stars 1 to 7 exhibit full centers, and the overall strike is sharp.

Variety: Briggs 2-A. The 1 in the date is between the sixth and seventh vertical lines in the shield. The digits are thick and strongly impressed.

Population Data (9/15): This Gem is among 11 others at NGC. The firm reports 19 in higher grades, up to a single MS68. CAC shows two Gems with a green sticker and six examples finer.

Heritage Commentary: Like the 1879 and 1880 issues, this Philadelphia Seated quarter date features a small mintage of 13,600 pieces. Perhaps 1,000 coins survive in all grades, with 45 examples in MS65 or better according to CoinFacts. Locating a more attractive example than this beauty will be even more challenging than the estimated survival rates suggest.

Provenance: Superior Galleries (5/2003), lot 2470. NGC ID# 23VH, PCGS# 5517

1886 Quarter, MS65
Second-Lowest Mintage in the Series



98487 1886 MS65 PCGS. Briggs 1-A. The typically prooflike surfaces are partly subdued by the dramatic ice-blue and violet toning that shrouds each side of this Gem semikey quarter. Well-struck and carefully preserved with grade-defining marks mostly hidden beneath the rich patina.

Variety: Briggs 1-A, attributed by a thin, level date and full star centers. Several heavy die lines pass through the vertical stripes near the bottom of the reverse shield.

Population Data (9/15): There are 10 Gems and 19 finer submissions at PCGS, while NGC reports four examples in MS65 and four coins finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1886 boasts the lowest mintage among a decade's worth of low-mintage issues. Output totaled just 5,000 coins, and only the 1873-CC No Arrows, of which six examples are known, has a smaller mintage in the entire Seated quarter series. Many Uncirculated pieces were squirreled away speculatively by contemporary collectors, explaining the relatively high survival rate in Mint State.

Provenance: Lucien M. LaRiviere Collection, Part III (Bowers and Merena, 5/2001), lot 1480. NGC ID# 23VJ, PCGS# 5518

1887 Quarter, Eye-Appealing MS66
Low Total Mintage



98488 1887 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-A. Violet and ice-blue patina covers each side with radiant mint luster glistening through the eye-appealing toning. Peripheral mint-green accents are noted on the reverse. The eagle's feathers, fletchings, and claws feature strong definition, while Liberty's hair and sandal are somewhat lightly impressed. The stars are typically flat. A couple of minuscule pedigree markers occur on the lower portion of 87 in the date.

Variety: Briggs 1-A, with the diagnostic horizontal die scratch in the obverse shield.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 31 in MS66 (two MS66+) and 17 finer, all MS67. NGC shows 21 in MS66 (four MS66+) with nine MS67 and one MS68 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The law of supply and demand ultimately makes the 1887 one of the more elusive dates in the series. Only 10,000 coins were struck at the Philadelphia Mint, and no supplementary coins were manufactured on the West Coast. The production total was sufficient to meet contemporary commercial needs, but present-day collector interest far outweighs the number of available representatives. An additional quantity of 710 proofs still fails to satisfy the demand for quarters bearing the 1887 date.

Provenance: Purchased from Jim O'Donnell (3/2005). NGC ID# 23VK, PCGS# 5519

1887 Quarter, MS67
Tied for Finest at PCGS



98489 1887 MS67 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-A. Mottled rose-red, peach, and apple-green patina shrouds this gorgeous, softly frosted Superb Gem. The design motifs are well-struck except for the stars (a typical occurrence), while the outstanding aesthetic quality is unqualified.

Variety: Briggs 1-A.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 17 submissions in MS67 and none finer — up from only eight MS67 back in April 2015. Clearly some (or several) resubmissions are in play here. NGC reports a single MS68 coin finer.

Heritage Commentary: Only 10,000 business strikes were issued in 1887. Bowers (2014) explains that in that year: “New dimes were called for, but old stocks of quarter and half dollars were more than sufficient for the needs of commerce ...”

Provenance: Dallas Signature (Heritage, 4/2007), lot 645; Scott Rudolph Collection / FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2009), lot 2369. NGC ID# 23VK, PCGS# 5519

1888 Quarter, MS67
One of Just 10,000 Pieces Minted



98490 1888 MS67 NGC. Briggs 1-A. Intense cobalt-blue, golden-brown, and reddish patination at the peripheries overlays frosty, lustrous surfaces. The design elements are sharply struck, save for the stars at the upper obverse. A touch of softness also occurs on Liberty's head. Both sides are well-preserved — affirmed by the impressive numeric grade — and reveal just a couple of minor ticks in the left obverse field.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. The right edge of the 1 is aligned between the sixth and seventh vertical lines in the shield. On the reverse, the verticals are recut right.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 17 in MS67 (four MS67+, two MS67 ★) and five finer. The finest at PCGS are nine in MS67.

Heritage Commentary: Relatively few 1888 quarters survive from the mintage of 10,000 pieces. This lovely Superb Gem may well be among the finest in terms of overall eye appeal.

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2006), lot 2327. NGC ID# 23VL, PCGS# 5520

1888-S Quarter, MS66
Ex: Pittman, Condition Rarity



98491 1888-S MS66 NGC. CAC. Briggs-Unlisted. Ex: Pittman. The technical and aesthetic quality of this Premium Gem is as impressive as its storied pedigree. Purple and violet patina dominates each side, concealing the few grade-limiting marks. Blue, green, and apricot-orange accents enhance the eye appeal. The stars boast fully defined centers. Liberty's head and the eagle's wing feathers also feature sharp detail.

Variety: Unlisted in Briggs. The right edge of the 1 aligns between verticals 6 and 7, and the left base of the 1 is centered over the left edge of a dentil. The stars are sharply struck with clear centers. The only reverse diagnostic is the position of the mintmark, which fails to match any of those listed in Briggs. The left-tilting S is centered slightly left.

Population Data (9/15): NGC lists five Premium Gems, while PCGS shows four comparably graded examples. There are three finer submissions at both services: two at NGC, one at PCGS. Four in MS66 have the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1888-S is unique in that it is only branch mint quarter issue from the 1880s. According to Larry Briggs, the date is "available in any and all grades, although like every seated quarter in this series — tougher in high grades." Specialists will no doubt recognize the importance of this offering, both in terms of its conditional rarity and its significant numismatic past.

Consignor Commentary: The Pittman coin, with a pedigree stretching back to the Neil Collection and beyond. There are three MS67 examples out there graded higher than this coin. However, the wonderful toning and strong eye appeal make this coin fully competitive based on beauty alone.

Provenance: Belden E. Roach Collection (B. Max Mehl, 2/1944), lot 2324; Will Neil Collection (B. Max Mehl, 6/1947), lot 1092; John Jay Pittman; Pittman Collection, Part II (David Akers, 5/1998), lot 1368; purchased from Stuart Blay (12/2004). NGC ID# 23VN, PCGS# 5521

1889 Quarter, MS66
Low-Mintage Issue, Coruscating Luster



98492 1889 MS66 PCGS. Briggs 1-A. Golden-orange, rose, and cobalt-blue shades occur peripherally and surround largely brilliant centers with flashy, coruscating luster. The impeccably preserved surfaces boast sharply detailed devices. The stars often come softly struck on this issue, but such is not the case with this high-end Premium Gem, housed in an old green label holder.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. The date slopes down left to right, and verticals 8 to 12 on the reverse shield are recut.

Population Data (9/15): The PCGS *Population Report* lists 41 grading events in MS66 with 36 submissions finer.

Heritage Commentary: Few of the 12,000 Seated quarters struck in 1889 actually circulated, and examples are seldom encountered in low grades. Most pieces were hoarded with the hope that this low-mintage issue would eventually command a premium.

Provenance: Sotheby's (11/1999), lot 170. NGC ID# 23VM, PCGS# 5522

1890 Quarter, MS65
Dramatic Multihued Toning



98493 1890 MS65 NGC. **Briggs 2-B.** If first impressions leave a long-lasting mark, this extraordinarily toned Gem will definitely be difficult, if not impossible, to forget. Gorgeous ice-blue centers turn to dramatic shades of green, yellow, orange, and magenta patina at the borders. The lower stars show full centers, and Liberty's hair is well-detailed. The reverse is needle-sharp with bold definition on the legends, feathers, and talons. A handful of small ticks define the grade, and die cracks and light clash marks occur on each side. We are nonplussed as to why this piece lacks the NGC Star designation.

Variety: Briggs 2-B. The date is level, and the vertical shield lines on the reverse are recut.

Population Data (9/15): This coin is among 31 grading events in MS65 at NGC, and there are 49 submissions in higher grades.

Heritage Commentary: Philadelphia mintages began to rise slowly in 1890, yet this issue's mintage still remains below the 100,000 coin-mark. Only 80,000 pieces were struck. Availability through upper Mint State grade levels makes the 1890 a popular date for inclusion in type sets.

Provenance: *Stack's* (9/1997), lot 746. NGC ID# 23VP, PCGS# 5523

1890 Quarter, MS66
Violet, Blue, and Orange Patina



98494 1890 MS66 PCGS. **CAC. Briggs 1-A.** Violet, blue, and golden-orange shades dominate with radiant luster underlying the well-preserved surfaces. The design definition on this magnificent Premium Gem is sharp throughout. Notably, the stars display full centers, and the lower portion of the eagle is crisply impressed. Housed in a green label holder.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. The date slopes downward and is positioned slightly higher than on Briggs 2-B.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 23 submissions in MS66 (one in MS66+) with 24 examples finer. The numbers are similar at NGC. This is among six in MS66 with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: Although the issue's mintage is higher than the Philadelphia dates that precede it, the 1890 production total of 80,000 quarters is still low within the larger context of the series. Briggs rated the date R.5 in his 1991 reference, and the issue compares favorably to its lower-mintage 1880s counterparts in high grades.

Provenance: *Sotheby's* (11/1999), lot 172. NGC ID# 23VP, PCGS# 5523

1891-S Quarter, MS65
Final-Year S-Mint Type Coin



98495 1891-S MS65 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 4-D. Antique patina covers this marvelous Gem representative in dappled hues of lavender, apricot, blue, and olive-green. The obverse appears a shade darker than the reverse, though frosty mint luster enlivens both sides. Strong detail and minimal marks heighten the appeal. A small linear depression perpendicular to Liberty's right (facing) arm will identify this coin in the future.

Variety: Briggs 4-D. The date and mintmark position confirm the variety. A bold die crack runs from the rock through the date and up to Liberty's sandal.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 17 Gems and seven in higher grades, while NGC Census shows 10 in MS65 and five submissions finer.

Heritage Commentary: This final-year S-mint Seated quarter issue claims a production total of 2.2 million coins. This mintage compares favorably to its Philadelphia counterpart (3.9 million coins struck), but the 1891-S is significantly more available than the low-mintage 1891-O (just 68,000 examples minted). Uncirculated survivors are scarce, and CoinFacts estimates that only 25 or so 1891-S quarters survive in MS65 or better.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (11/2006). NGC ID# 23VT, PCGS# 5526



PROOF SEATED QUARTERS

1841 Seated Quarter, PR61 One of Four Confirmed Proofs First Auction Appearance in 30 Years



98496 1841 PR61 PCGS. Briggs 4-B. Pinpoint-sharp definition on the devices and broad, square rims establish beyond any doubt that this is a proof strike. Every detail from the stars, to Liberty's head and sandal, to the olive leaves, talons, and fletchings are completely delineated. A layer of frost — the result of freshly polished dies — covers the motifs, standing out against glassy, reflective fields. Areas of brilliance blend with splashes of olive, apricot-tan, and powder-blue toning. Scattered contact marks occur uniformly over each side, but they do not diminish the allure of this incredible rarity.

Variety: Briggs 4-B. The upward sloping date shows the right edge of the one aligned between verticals 7 and 8 in the shield. Several vertical lines on the reverse shield extend into the horizontals.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of two PR61 examples at PCGS. NGC has certified a single PR66 representative.

Heritage Commentary: The Gardner Collection is inarguably one of the greatest sets ever assembled. Replete with a wide array of numismatic treasures, the collection places particular emphasis on Seated Liberty coinage. It is almost unsurprising, then, that Gene Gardner managed to obtain not one, but two examples of the 1841 proof quarter.

The 1841 proof quarter is a monumental rarity. Larry Briggs noted in his 1991 reference that two proofs had been verified, but allowed for the possibility that others existed. Walter Breen (1988) wrote that four examples were known — a number that corresponds to our auction records. Three of the four specimens are in private hands, and one example is locked away in the Smithsonian Institution. The finest certified proof, a PR66 NGC example that also resided in the Gardner set, traces its history to collections of John Jay Pittman and Phil Kaufman. The other PR61 PCGS representative is pedigreed as follows: Superior (10/1990), lot 3531; Silbermünzen Collection (Heritage, 5/2008), lot 336; Baltimore Auction (Bowers and Merena, 11/2008), lot 2016; Sweet Bloomfield Collection (Heritage, 1/2015), lot 4096.

This proof last appeared at auction as lot 757 in the June 1985 Superior sale of the Robert O. Lawson Collection. It subsequently passed through the hands of unknown intermediaries before Gene Gardner acquired it from Jason Carter in June 2005.

Provenance: Robert O. Lawson Collection (*Superior*, 6/1985), lot 757; purchased from Jason Carter (6/2005). NGC ID# 23W4, PCGS# 5535

1845 Seated Quarter, PR65
One of Six Confirmed Proofs
The Clapp-Eliasberg-Kaufman Example



98497 1845 PR65 NGC. Briggs 5-E. Ex: Eliasberg. Largely violet-gray surfaces display splashes of blue, green, and russet iridescence. The proof strike produces full detail on each side. Diagonal striae occur in a northwest to southeast fashion on the reverse. A small lint mark in the right obverse field serves as pedigree identifier, and there are no discernible impairments aside from an expected number of minor contact marks.

Variety: Briggs 5-E. The 845 in the date is recut with the underlying digits positioned left of the corrected figures. Briggs adds that this is a Large 5 over Small 5. There are no listed reverse diagnostics.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports four submissions in PR64, two in PR65, and one in PR66. PCGS shows two in PR63 and five in PR64 (one PR64+). Included in these data are numerous resubmissions.

Heritage Commentary: Larry Briggs estimates that “approximately six proofs” are extant, while Breen’s *Encyclopedia* claims six proofs are known. Our auction records corroborate those estimates (see roster below). This example once resided in the collections of William Dickinson, the Clapps, Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr., and Phil Kaufman. It last sold as lot 1112 in Bowers and Merena’s Rarities Sale of March 1999, where it was described as: “A reflective light gray gem with rich gold, blue, and rose iridescence on both sides. A prized rarity with perhaps just a half dozen or so specimens currently known ...”

1845 Proof Seated Quarter Roster

1. **PR66 NGC.** Menjou Collection (Numismatic Gallery, 6/1950), lot 715; John Jay Pittman; Pittman Collection (David Akers, 5/1998), lot 1711, as part of a complete 1845 proof set; Phil Kaufman Collection (Heritage, 1/2008), lot 3030; FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2009), lot 3765; Chicago Signature (Heritage, 8/2013), lot 5589; Eugene H. Gardner Collection, Part II (Heritage, 10/2014), lot 98394.
2. **PR65 NGC.** William Dickinson Collection (S.H. and Henry Chapman, 3/1894), lot 387; J.M. Clapp; John H. Clapp; Clapp Estate (1942); Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; Eliasberg Collection (Bowers and Merena, 4/1997), lot 1437; Phil Kaufman; Rarities Sale (Bowers and Merena, 1/1999), lot 1112. **The present coin.**
3. **PR64 PCGS.** George Earle Collection (Henry Chapman, 6/1912), lot 3088; Ryder Collection; Wayte Raymond; 49th Sale (New Netherlands, 6/1957), lot 1152; Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2012), lot 3489; Central States Signature (Heritage, 4/2014), lot 5582.
4. **PR64 NGC.** Eric P. Newman / Central States Signature (Heritage, 4/2013), lot 3904.
5. **PR63 PCGS.** Possibly the same as one of the coins below.
6. **Proof.** Smithsonian Institution.

Additional Appearances

- A. **Proof.** Harmer Rooke (11/1989).
- B. **Brilliant Proof.** Howard R. Newcomb Collection (Morgenthau, 2/1945), lot 614.
- C. **Brilliant Proof.** Matthew A. Stickney Collection (Henry Chapman, 6/1907), lot 1174.
- D. **Proof.** Matthew A. Stickney Collection (Henry Chapman, 6/1907), lot 1789, as part of an original seven-piece proof set, which realized \$250. NGC ID# 23W8, PCGS# 5539

1850 Quarter, PR62 Four Proofs Extant



98498 1850 PR62 PCGS. Briggs 3-C. Rose, amber-russet, and golden-gray patina lightly colors each side. Limitless depth in the fields, a full strike, and square rims affirm this coin's proof status. Scattered contact marks limit the grade. However, none are singularly distracting, nor do they diminish the importance of this offering. Housed in a green label holder.

Variety: Briggs 3-C. The widely spaced date is far left in relation to the shield point, and level and low relative to the base. The left base of the 1 is over the right edge of a dentil. The sharp stars show full centers. Briggs mentions no reverse diagnostic markers.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports this PR62 example and a PR67 submission (the Pittman-Kaufman specimen). NGC shows one each in PR62 and PR65.

Heritage Commentary: When it comes to rarity, the 1850 proof quarter is in the same class as the 1841, of which an example is included earlier in this sale. Both issues survive to the extent of just four representatives. The finest 1850 example is a PR67 PCGS coin that traces its history to the collections of John Jay Pittman, Phil Kaufman, and possibly Harlan P. Smith. The same coin recently sold as lot 30406 in the Gardner Collection, Part I (Heritage, 6/2014).

Walter Breen mentions in his *Proof Encyclopedia* that an 1850 silver-minor proof set, purchased directly from the Mint by Alexandre Vattemare, resided in the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris. John Dannreuther explains that the Bibliothèque sold the 1850 quarter in 1986 out of what was a complete proof set, rather than a silver-minor proof set as noted by Breen, to fund the acquisition of additional French coins. It is believed that that coin represents the PR65 NGC ranked second on the 1850 proof quarter roster (see the next lot in this sale).

A third PR63 representative first appeared the J.H. South Collection in 1951. It eventually passed through the hands of Reed Hawn (Stack's, 3/1977) and Ellis Robison (Stack's, 2/1982), and last appeared in a Heritage auction in February 1984.

This is the fourth 1850 proof quarter listed on the roster. Gene Gardner purchased the coin as lot 156 in the August 1998 Rarities sale conducted by Bowers and Merena, where it was described as: "Fully detailed with complete mirrored fields. Unquestionably a Proof striking. Light ivory with splashes of blue and amber iridescence. A most attractive example of this extremely rare Proof issue, one of just three Proof specimens we have traced."

Provenance: Floyd T. Starr Collection (Stack's, 1/1993), lot 445; Rarities Sale (Bowers and Merena, 8/1998), lot 156. NGC ID# 23WD, PCGS# 5544

1850 Seated Quarter, PR65
Second Finest of Four Examples
Traced Directly to the Philadelphia Mint
Continuous Provenance 165 Years Long



98499 1850 PR65 NGC. Briggs 3-C. Rich shades of violet, rose, cobalt-blue, and mint-green encompass each side of this extremely rare Gem proof Seated quarter, coloring the deeply mirrored surfaces. Squared-off rims frame fully struck devices, as expected, though the effect is no less impressive. There are a few signs of minor contact in the reverse field. Distinctive spots of lighter toning appear mostly on the obverse.

Variety: Briggs 3-C. The date is low and level with the right edge of the 1 aligned with the fifth vertical line in the shield. Die defects on the lower-left and upper-right portions of the 0 further confirm the proof origin.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports one PR62 and this PR65. PCGS shows one PR62 submission with one PR67 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1850 proof Seated quarter is one of the rarest issues in the entire series. It has been reported that only three proofs are extant, though our auction records suggest four examples survive (see roster below). This coin derives from a complete proof set obtained directly from the Mint in 1850 by French national Alexandre Vattemare. The set was bequeathed to the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris, where it currently resides. According to John Dannreuther, this proof quarter was traded out of the set for French coins missing from the National Collection in 1886. David Akers noted in the Pittman catalog that it was displayed in the showcase of Tangible Investments of America at the 1998 FUN convention.

Boasting a complete and continuous numismatic provenance over the past 165 years since its striking, this is a coin of monumental importance.

Roster of 1850 Proof Seated Liberty Quarters

1. **PR67 PCGS.** Possibly from Harlan P. Smith (Chapman Brothers, 5/1906), lot 820; acquired by John Jay Pittman from R. Green (5/1949); John Jay Pittman (David Akers, 5/1998), lot 1317; Phil Kaufman Collection / FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2008), lot 3035; Greensboro Collection, Part IV (Heritage, 8/2013), lot 5591; Eugene H. Gardner Collection, Part I (Heritage, 6/2014), lot 30406.
2. **PR65 NGC.** Purchased directly from the Mint by Alexandre Vattemare (1850); Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris; Ed Higgs (1986); Richmond Collection, Part III (David Lawrence Rare Coins, 3/2005), lot 1521; Jason Carter; purchased by Gene Gardner (4/2005). **The present coin.**
3. **PR63.** J.H. South Collection (Stack's, 5/1951), lot 515; Central States Convention Sale (RARCOA, 4/1976), lot 218; Reed Hawn Collection (Stack's, 3/1977), lot 310; Ellis Robison (Stack's, 2/1982), lot 1318; Heritage (2/1984), lot 956.
4. **PR62 PCGS.** Floyd T. Starr Collection (Stack's, 1/1993), lot 445; Rarities Sale (Bowers and Merena, 8/1998), lot 156; Gene Gardner.

Additional Appearances

- A. **Proof.** John F. McCoy (W. Elliot Woodward, 5/1864), lot 379. A five-piece silver proof set sold for \$25 to "Levett" (probably George Leavitt).
- B. **Proof.** Joseph J. Mickley (W. Elliot Woodward, 10/1867), lot 1720. A five-piece silver proof set sold for \$35 to William Lilliendahl.
- C. Floyd Starr reported seeing an 1850 silver proof set in the possession of coin dealer William Hesslein in 1923.
- D. **Gem Proof.** Arizona State National Convention (Vintage, 10/1988). Possibly number 2 on the roster. NGC ID# 23WD, PCGS# 5544

1855 Arrows Quarter, PR62
15 to 20 Proofs Struck



98500 1855 Arrows PR62 PCGS. Briggs 5-E. Lavender and golden-orange centers progress to shades of violet and electric blue around the edges. As usual for the issue, a touch of peripheral softness occurs on each side. The lavish toning effectively hides any detracting contact marks without overly subduing the proof reflectivity in the fields.

Variety: Briggs 5-E. The downward sloping date has slanted 5s. The right edge of the 1 is positioned right of the sixth vertical line in the shield. QUAR. DOL. is lightly recut.

Population Data (9/15): This is the only PR62 example at PCGS with four submissions finer, including one PR65. NGC shows one coin in PR63, two each in PR64 and PR65, and one in PR66.

Heritage Commentary: Walter Breen, Larry Briggs, and CoinFacts agree that 15 to 20 1855 proof Seated quarters exist. Although this coin has the lowest grade among certified representatives, it remains a marvelous example of a very rare issue that might otherwise be unobtainable.

Provenance: *Stack's* (1/1997), lot 545. NGC ID# 23WW, PCGS# 5551

1856 Quarter, PR65
Pre-Commercial Proof Era Issue



98501 1856 PR65 NGC. Briggs 10-H. The devices on this Gem No Motto proof exhibit a thin layer of frost, generating a degree of cameo contrast against glassy, minimally marked fields. Attractive multicolor toning colors the obverse in shades of cobalt-blue, peach-orange, violet, and sea-green. Similar hues frame lightly patinated centers on the reverse.

Variety: Briggs 10-H. Prominent die lines are visible between verticals 9 and 10 on the obverse shield. The outline of Liberty's skirt is lightly doubled. Proofs show a die bulge from under A(MERICA) down through the eagle's right wing to DO(L).

Population Data (9/15): NGC lists four submitted in PR65 and three in PR66. PCGS reports three in PR65 and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: Without question, examples from this pre-commercial era proof issue are rare, and the original number of proof quarters manufactured at the Philadelphia Mint in 1856 is uncertain. Larry Briggs estimated the mintage to be around 25 pieces, while Walter Breen (1989) believed the mintage consisted of fewer than 30 proofs. Today, the number of certified coins at NGC and PCGS combined stands at 56 representatives, meaning earlier estimates are probably low. A reasonable approximation might be closer to 75 proofs, assuming a small percentage were lost through attrition over the past 159 years.

Provenance: *Pre-Long Beach Elite Coin Auction* (Superior, 6/2004), lot 1329. NGC ID# 23WH, PCGS# 5552

1858 Quarter, PR66 Cameo
Vivid Multicolor Toning, Boldly Contrasted
Tied for Finest Certified



98502 1858 PR66 Cameo NGC. Briggs 5-E. The incredible target toning on this Premium Gem Cameo proof displays warm golden-orange centers, progressing to rose, violet, ice-blue, and sea-green. Frosted, expectedly razor-sharp motifs appear to float over the watery fields, and marks are entirely trivial.

Variety: Briggs 5-E. The date slopes slightly downward, and the right edge of the 1 is positioned between the sixth and seventh shield verticals.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of two PR66 Cameo submissions at NGC with none finer. The finest at PCGS is a single PR65 Cameo coin.

Heritage Commentary: This coin is from the first proof issue offered publicly by the Mint. Proofs were distributed to individuals at no extra charge, in contrast to previous years, when proofs were only struck in small quantities upon demand. With no proofing premium to pay, the public was free to speculate without risk, and they indulged. In his *Proof Encyclopedia* (1989), Breen noted that probably 60 to 75 proof quarters were minted, while Larry Briggs (1991) pegged the production total at 80 pieces. Today, CoinFacts estimates a mintage of 100 specimens, and the 2016 *Guide Book* reports that somewhere around 300 proofs were manufactured. NGC and PCGS have certified 136 1858 proofs in all, suggesting the *Guide Book's* figure is probably too high. Conversely, the three other estimates are probably low, and a reasonable approximation might be that between 150 to 200 proofs were struck.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (9/2008). NGC ID# 23WK, PCGS# 85554

1859 Quarter, Splendidly Toned PR63



98503 1859 PR63 NGC. Briggs 2-B. Blended shades of purple and blue coalesce around the peripheries, ceding to magenta, rose, and peach-orange interiors with partial brilliance at the extreme centers on each side. Light wispy marks appear throughout, but they are more prominent on the obverse.

Variety: Briggs 2-B. Type Two Reverse. The 1 in the date has a thin base, wide upright, and long, thin serif.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 40 submitted in this numeric grade with 40 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Proof quarter output climbed to 800 pieces in 1859, as the Mint continued its practice of distributing proofs at no extra charge for the second year in a row. The issue is relatively available through Choice condition, making this splendid Select representative an ideal candidate for the type specialist or toning enthusiast.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (9/2008). NGC ID# 23WL, PCGS# 5555

1859 Quarter, PR66
Early Collectible Proof Issue



98504 1859 PR66 NGC. CAC. Briggs 2-B. Both sides exhibit frosty, brilliant centers with deep mirroring in the fields. Rich shades of blue, violet, and golden-peach paint the obverse, while the lighter-toned reverse has more of a dusky golden-gray appearance with russet patina encompassing the margins. A few minuscule signs of contact are peppered over each side, though none merit individual mention.

Variety: Briggs 2-B, with a thin base 1 and a Type Two reverse.

Population Data (9/15): NGC has seen 15 grading events in PR66 with four finer — three PR67 and one PR67 ★. There are three PR66 examples at PCGS and three finer.

Heritage Commentary: Recent research by John Dannreuther counters the previously held belief that the Mint began selling proofs to the public in 1858. Actually, proofs were struck in large quantities in 1858 and 1859 and made available to collectors and dealers for face value, allowing for risk-free speculation. A proofing surcharge was put in place in 1860, after which point demand for proofs declined substantially. A total of 800 proof quarters were manufactured in 1859. Perhaps 250 or so examples survive, and the issue is relatively accessible in lower grades. Procuring a finer example than this gorgeous Premium Gem, however, will prove difficult.

Provenance: Purchased from *Legend Numismatics* (4/2002). NGC ID# 23WL, PCGS# 5555

1860 Quarter, PR66
Ex: Pittman, Tied for Finest at PCGS



98505 1860 PR66 PCGS. Briggs 9-H. Ex: Pittman. The reflective fields and thickly frosted devices glisten through a thin veil of delicate red-gold patina that deepens toward the rims. The flawless surfaces fully justify the Premium Gem proof designation. Abundant eye appeal.

Variety: Briggs 9-H, Type Two Obverse, Type One Reverse (concave eagle eye).

Population Data (9/15): This Premium Gem proof is tied with six other submissions for finest at PCGS. NGC has seen eight in PR66 and two finer — one each in PR67 ★ and PR68 ★.

Heritage Commentary: A controversial coin that PCGS certified as a proof and that John Jay Pittman purchased as such in 1961. In the catalog for the Pittman Collection, Part II, however, David Akers attributes the variety as Briggs 1-A and describes this coin as, "... Definitely a business strike. The edge is not square, the rims are well rounded, and all the stars at the left are flat." This coin also pairs the Type Two obverse with the Type One reverse, a coupling that Briggs (1991) claims exists in proof format. Breen (1988), however, maintains that the Mint did not use this pairing on proof dies. The strike softness on the stars is common to both proof specimens and business strikes of this issue. While there is some controversy surrounding this piece's production, there is no debate regarding its beauty.

Provenance: *Kreisberg-Schulman* (9/1961), lot 795, which realized \$40; John Jay Pittman; Pittman Collection, Part II (David Akers, 5/1998), lot 1340; purchased from *Heritage* (8/2000). NGC ID# 23WM, PCGS# 5556

1860 Quarter, PR66 ★ Cameo
Eye-Catching Color and Contrast



98506 1860 PR66 ★ Cameo NGC. Briggs 8-G. Bold cameo contrast — the result of frosty devices and deeply reflective fields — captures the attention of the viewer at first glance. Bands of orange, rose, violet, blue, and green toning overlie the surfaces, anchored by brilliant centers. Postproduction flaws are virtually indiscernible beneath the beautiful patina.

Variety: Briggs 8-G. Type Two Reverse. The date slopes down left to right.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports three in PR66 Cameo (one in PR66 ★ Cameo) with two finer submissions. PCGS has seen two in PR66 Cameo and one finer.

Heritage Commentary: It would have been appropriate for Mint officials to assume demand for proofs would increase over time under normal circumstances. After all, public interest rose sharply between 1858 and 1859. However, proofs were available at face value in those years, and it should have come as little surprise when demand dropped considerably after a 13 cent proofing premium was implemented in 1860. Of the 1,000 proof quarters minted in that year, 458 coins were melted as unsold.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (9/2008). NGC ID# 23WM, PCGS# 85556

1861 Quarter, PR66
Two Graded Finer



98507 1861 PR66 NGC. Briggs 7-E. Colorful obverse toning includes hues of blue, violet, russet, and orange with partial brilliance in the centers. The reverse shows mostly pearl-gray patina with colors similar to those on the obverse around the margins. The fields are moderately reflective, and tiny marks are only visible with the aid of a loupe.

Variety: Briggs 7-E, Type Two Obverse, Type Two Reverse. The right edge of the 1 is centered between verticals 6 and 7. Stars 3 to 6 and 8 to 12 are lightly recut. On the reverse, horizontal shield lines 1 to 7 are recut left.

Population Data (9/15): NGC has seen nine submissions in PR66 with two finer, while the finest at PCGS are four in PR66.

Heritage Commentary: The Mint grossly overestimated the demand for proofs in 1861, especially considering the new proofing charge of 13 cents that was put into place one year earlier. Although 1,000 proof quarters were struck in 1861, 60% of the mintage was melted as unsold. Perhaps 350 proofs are extant, but only a small contingent survives so well-preserved.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (4/2002). NGC ID# 23WN, PCGS# 5557

1861 Seated Quarter, PR67 ★
Among the Finest Certified



98508 1861 PR67 ★ NGC. Briggs 7-E. Like many of the proof Seated quarters in this remarkable set, the interior regions remain partly brilliant, encompassed by magnificent rings of iridescent golden-orange, rose, and cobalt-blue. NGC has awarded a Star designation for eye appeal, and rightfully so.

Variety: Briggs 7-E. A small die line above star 8 is diagnostic of proofs.

Population Data (9/15): There are two submissions in PR67 at NGC, but this is the only one with a Star designation. Four Premium Gem proofs are the finest submissions at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: Only the Eric P. Newman PR68 ★ Cameo example is rated higher than this Superb Gem, and that coin recently brought an impressive sum of \$129,250 during the sale of the Eugene H. Gardner Collection, Part III (Heritage, 5/2015). This is an excellent opportunity to obtain an impeccable representative that gives the Newman coin a serious run for its money. From a net mintage of 400 proofs.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (9/2008). NGC ID# 23WN, PCGS# 5557

1862 Quarter, PR66
Low Net Production of 430 Proofs



98509 1862 PR66 NGC. CAC. Briggs 5-E. This stunning Premium Gem proof offers electric-blue, magenta, and amber obverse toning, while the reverse features a moderate cameo effect with blushes of light greenish-gray and amber-gold patina amid areas of brilliance. A few of the left-side stars are a trifle incomplete. Highly attractive with a well-deserved CAC approval sticker.

Variety: Briggs 5-E. The right edge of the 1 in the date lines up with the eighth vertical shield line.

Population Data (9/15): The finest certified non-Cameos are eight submissions in PR66 at NGC and six at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: As was the case in 1860 and 1861, the Mint overestimated the demand for proofs in 1862. A total of 550 proofs were originally struck, but 120 unsold pieces were sent to the melting pot at year's end.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2006), lot 950. NGC ID# 23WP, PCGS# 5558

1862 Quarter, Variegated PR67 ★ Cameo
One of the Finest Examples Seen



98510 1862 PR67 ★ Cameo NGC. Briggs 5-E. Shades of electric-blue, rose, violet, and champagne-gold blend into one another from the rims toward the interiors, covering all but the central reverse. Cameo contrast heightens the appeal, and the deeply mirrored fields are seemingly pristine.

Variety: Briggs 5-E. The date is level, and the stars show full centers. On the reverse, the denomination and shield verticals are lightly recut.

Population Data (9/15): There are seven PR67 Cameo coins at NGC (resubmissions likely included), but only two have a Star designation. The service reports one PR68 ★ Cameo finer. The top examples at PCGS are three in PR66 Cameo.

Heritage Commentary: Only 430 of the 550 proof quarters struck in 1862 were sold, and the rest were melted. Non-Cameo examples are moderately available through the Choice proof level, while the issue becomes scarce to rare in Gem and above. All Cameo proofs are rare, and this Star-designated Superb Gem is easily one of the finest pieces we have had the pleasure of handling.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (9/2008). NGC ID# 2A4Z, PCGS# 85558

1863 Quarter, PR66
Only Two Examples Rated Finer



98511 1863 PR66 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 4-D. The surfaces feature predominantly rich violet toning with blue, sea-green, and lavender accents more prevalent on the reverse. The marvelous coloration provides this clean, deeply mirrored Premium Gem proof wonderful visual appeal to match its outstanding technical quality.

Variety: Briggs 4-D. The date slopes upward. The verticals and QUAR. are lightly doubled.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports nine submitted in PR66 (one PR66+). NGC shows 10 PR66 submissions and two finer, one PR67 and one PR67 ★. CAC has given the green approval sticker to four in PR66.

Heritage Commentary: Two years after the outbreak of the Civil War, small-denomination silver coin mintages declined precipitously. Such coins were widely hoarded and used as stores of value rather than as mediums of exchange. Proof production also declined, and the 1863 represents the low point in proof quarter output between 1859 and 1913. Only 460 pieces were struck, and this Premium Gem is among the finest surviving examples.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (9/2000). NGC ID# 23WR, PCGS# 5559

1863 Quarter, PR66 Cameo
Second-Lowest Proof Mintage in the Series



98512 1863 PR66 Cameo NGC. Briggs 4-D. The colors on this Premium Gem proof are similar to those seen on so many proofs of this era, although they are more somewhat more dappled than usual. Ice-blue and sea-green peripheral motifs along with frosty lilac and amber-toned central devices stand out against pleasingly mirrored fields with violet and olive patina.

Variety: Briggs 4-D. The right edge of the 1 in the upward sloping date is lined up with the shield point.

Population Data (9/15): This PR66 Cameo is among five such submissions at NGC with one each in PR67 Cameo and PR67 ★ Cameo finer. PCGS reports two PR66 Cameo examples (one in PR66+) and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: As tensions between the Union and the Confederacy reached new highs in 1863, proof production fell to just 460 quarters — the second-lowest mintage in the Seated Liberty series. Understandably, only a small number of individuals had both the means and the interest in acquiring proof sets while the Civil War raged on around them.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (9/2008). NGC ID# 23WR, PCGS# 85559

1864 Quarter, PR65 Cameo
Clean Multicolored Surfaces



98513 1864 PR65 Cameo NGC. Briggs 3-C. The toning on each side is diagnostic of storage in an old-time collection — a color pattern Gene Gardner favored when selecting examples for his historic set. It is easy to understand why. This gorgeous Gem Cameo example offers bands of navy and cobalt-blue, rose-violet, orange, and gold patina. Thickly frosted central motifs, lightly toned on the obverse and brilliant on the reverse, appear suspended over the watery mirrors.

Variety: Briggs 3-C. All 1864 proof quarters show the left base of the 1 over the left edge of the dentil and the right base of the 4 positioned between two dentils.

Population Data (9/15): NGC lists eight grading events in PR65 Cameo (one PR65 ★ Cameo) with six finer. The population data are similar at PCGS, where there are nine coins in PR65 Cameo, two in PR66 Cameo, and one in PR68 Cameo.

Heritage Commentary: According to Walter Breen, 370 silver-minor proofs sets were struck between February and March 1864. Another 100 sets were manufactured in July, for a total of 470. The small mintage represents the third-lowest production in the series following the 1858 and 1863. The rarity of high-grade 1864 circulation strikes puts added date pressure on the already small number of proof quarters.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (9/2008). NGC ID# 23WS, PCGS# 85560

1865 Quarter, PR66 Cameo
Final No Motto Issue, Rare With Contrast



98514 1865 PR66 Cameo NGC. Briggs 3-B. Blue-green, purple, and golden-russet coloration frames the mostly brilliant, thickly frosted portrait of Liberty on the obverse. The reverse is virtually untoned, aside from touches of rose and reddish-gold color at the rims. Bold field-device contrast and minimal contact marks round out the appeal of this Premium Gem Cameo proof.

Variety: Briggs 3-B, attributed by the rusted obverse die and the position of the 1 relative to the eighth and ninth shield verticals. Briggs notes a few small die chips in the left field near the rock that are faintly visible on this example.

Population Data (9/15): This coin is tied with six other PR66 Cameo examples at NGC (one in PR66 ★ Cameo) with six finer submissions. PCGS reports three in the same grade with a single PR68 Cameo finer.

Heritage Commentary: This is the final No Motto issue in the Seated quarter series. A mintage of 500 proofs accompanied the production of 58,800 circulation strikes in 1865. Over 75% of the proofs certified at NGC are non-Cameos, and less than 22% of the certified population at that service has been awarded a Cameo designation. The marked contrast on this example and its impressive technical grade make it an important numismatic rarity.

Provenance: *Superior* (7/2005), lot 1023. NGC ID# 23WT, PCGS# 85561

1865 Quarter, PR67 ★ Cameo
Virtually Pristine



98515 1865 PR67 ★ Cameo NGC. Briggs 3-B. Warm golden toning blankets the frosty portrait of Liberty and lightly tints the predominantly brilliant eagle. The surrounding fields are mostly golden-peach and lavender-rose in color, while the outermost areas feature vivid blue-green iridescence. This Superb Gem proof has a decidedly white-(or light)-on-black appearance when viewed directly, and the colors become even more apparent when rotated in-hand.

Variety: Briggs 3-B, Type Two Reverse. The right edge of the 1 points between verticals 8 and 9.

Population Data (9/15): Two of the four PR67 Cameo submissions at NGC have Star designations, and there are only two finer. PCGS shows one PR68 Cameo supported by three in PR66 Cameo (one in PR66+ Cameo).

Heritage Commentary: Type enthusiasts who put a premium on color will notice this fabulous final-year No Motto proof. Only 58,800 circulation strikes were struck in 1865, and they are rarely encountered in high grades. Consequently, proofs (500 pieces minted) are popularly sought-after alternatives. This Superb Gem would be virtually impossible to upgrade.

Provenance: *Purchased from Larry Whitlow* (9/2008). NGC ID# 23WT, PCGS# 85561

1866 Motto Quarter, PR66
Original Two-Toned Surfaces



98516 1866 Motto PR66 NGC. Briggs 2-B. This Premium Gem proof is simply gorgeous in terms of originality. Rich blue centers are surrounded by bright crimson-rose peripheral color. The proof impression results in full definition throughout, and the smooth surfaces have obviously been well-cared for since the day of issue.

Variety: Briggs 2-B. Proofs have a level date, while business strikes show the date sloping up from left to right.

Population Data (9/15): The top-rated proofs at NGC are nine PR66 submissions and two each in PR67 and PR68 (one with a Star). PCGS lists one in PR66 and two in PR67 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1866 Motto claims a healthy mintage of 725 proofs, but the dearth of high-grade circulation strikes — of which only 16,800 pieces were manufactured at Philadelphia — places added pressure on the proofs. A first-year type, this issue is genuinely rare at the finer levels of preservation, particularly in Premium Gem or better condition.

Provenance: *Long Beach Signature* (Heritage, 2/2003), lot 6656; purchased from Jason Carter (3/2003). NGC ID# 23WX, PCGS# 5565

1866 Motto Quarter, PR64 ★ Cameo
Delightful Eye Appeal



98517 1866 Motto PR64 ★ Cameo NGC. Briggs 2-B. Although a few wispy grazes in the fields limit the technical grade, the eye appeal of this Choice Cameo Star-designated NGC proof easily compares to that of higher-graded representatives. Each side is richly patinated in bands of electric-blue, rose-violet, and amber with mint-green accents. The central reverse maintains a degree of brilliance. Dramatic field-device contrast completes the universal appeal.

Variety: Briggs 2-B, identified by a spur on the dentil below the right edge of the final 6 in the date.

Population Data (9/15): NGC has seen eight PR64 Cameo coins, but this is the only Star-designated example. There are 16 finer submissions at that firm. PCGS reports 10 submissions in PR64 Cameo with 11 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The reported mintage for the year stands at 725 proofs, but Breen suggests fewer specimens may have been struck than reported, as Uncirculated coins were occasionally included in sets. Whether or not that is the case, survivors as fine as this with Cameo and Star designations are elusive.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (9/2008). NGC ID# 23WX, PCGS# 85565

1867 Seated Quarter, PR64
625 Proofs Minted



98518 1867 PR64 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 2-B. Golden-lilac centers progress to darker purple, blue, and olive shades on the obverse with areas of brilliance in the fields. The central reverse is nearly untuned, while the outer regions exhibit coloration reminiscent of the the obverse. The design elements are predictably razor-sharp, and each side is moderately contrasted with deep mirrors and minimal contact marks.

Variety: Briggs 2-B. The date slopes slightly upward, and the Q in QUAR. is recut.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of 47 PR64 submissions at PCGS with 30 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The Mint struck 625 proof quarters in 1867 to supplement a low production of 20,000 business strikes. The proofs are significantly more available than their circulation-strike counterparts in XF or better, making this Choice example an ideal alternative for collectors looking to assemble a high-end date set.

Provenance: *Stack's* (3/1996), lot 329. NGC ID# 23WY, PCGS# 5566

1867 Quarter, PR66
Iridescent Patina, Rarely Seen Finer



98519 1867 PR66 NGC. CAC. Briggs 2-B. Iridescent hues of blue, green, violet, and gold provide this Premium Gem proof with spectacular eye appeal on each side. The patina somewhat subdues the contrast between the design elements and the watery fields. A highly desirable, carefully preserved coin.

Variety: Briggs 2-B. The date position and sharp lettering on the scroll are the primary pickup points for the variety.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 15 in PR66 (one PR66+) with seven submissions finer. PCGS shows seven comparably graded coins and two finer. CAC has given the green approval to two in PR66.

Heritage Commentary: As is the case with the Philadelphia issues that immediately precede and follow it, the 1867 claims a low total mintage. Just 20,000 coins were struck for circulation plus an additional 625 proofs issued in sets for sale to collectors. The business strikes are often prooflike in appearance as so few coins were produced, leading to confusion regarding the origin of many examples. Variety attribution and third-party certification in recent decades have aided in making such determinations.

Provenance: *Rarities Sale* (Bowers and Merena, 8/1999), lot 147. NGC ID# 23WY, PCGS# 5566

1867 Quarter, PR64 ★ Cameo
Spectacular Multicolor Patina



98520 1867 PR64 ★ Cameo NGC. CAC. Briggs 2-B. Aside from the brilliant central reverse, this Star-designated PR64 Cameo 1867 quarter with CAC approval offers dramatic contrast and spectacular multicolor toning throughout. Shades include ice-blue, mint-green, magenta, and amber-gold, progressing in a concentric fashion from the margins toward the interiors. Lightly marked with uninhibited aesthetic appeal.

Variety: Briggs 2-B. The right edge of the 1 is positioned under the seventh vertical shield line.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 15 examples in PR64 Cameo, this the only one with a Star designation. PCGS shows nine PR64 Cameo representatives. Finer submissions include 16 at NGC and 14 at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: Collectors assembling complete date sets often forgo high-grade circulation strikes from this and other contemporary Philadelphia issues, as their small mintages and even smaller Mint State survival rates result in prohibitively high prices. Proofs such as this, from a mintage of 625 pieces, are attractive alternatives. They can be found in excellent condition with splendid toning and razor-sharp detail, as seen here.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (9/2008). NGC ID# 23WY, PCGS# 85566

1868 Seated Quarter, PR66
One Example Finer at Both Services



98521 1868 PR66 NGC. Briggs 2-B. Navy and greenish-blue borders give way to red-violet and pumpkin-gold hues, surrounding brilliant centers on each side. A Premium Gem proof of exceptional quality. The pleasingly contrasted surfaces fail to yield any noticeable marks, save for a small planchet flaw (as made) above (I)N G(OD) on the reverse.

Variety: Briggs 2-B. The 1 in the date is triple punched north, and the final 8 shows recutting within the upper loop.

Population Data (9/15): There are 11 submissions in PR66 (one PR66+) and one PR67 finer. PCGS shows six in PR66 and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: Quarter dollar mintages remained low in 1868, both in business strike and proof formats. The Philadelphia Mint accomplished a run of 29,400 coins for circulation (though silver did not circulate widely at the time) plus 600 proofs. Like the years immediately preceding and following it, the proofs of 1868 are subject to stronger-than-average demand because of the limited number of well-preserved circulation strikes.

Provenance: Elite Coin Auction (Superior, 7/2003), lot 1054. NGC ID# 23WZ, PCGS# 5567

1868 Quarter, PR65 ★ Cameo
Vibrant Color Palette



98522 1868 PR65 ★ Cameo NGC. Briggs 2-B. Both sides of this amazing Gem Cameo Star-designated proof with stark cameo contrast feature concentric rings of blue, rose, and champagne-gold around largely untuned centers. Liberty and the eagle appear suspended over deep, reflective fields with minimal contact marks. The vibrant color palette and eye-catching contrast are incredible to behold.

Variety: Briggs 2-B. A large die lump below the B in LIBERTY distinguishes this proof from a prooflike circulation strike.

Population Data (9/15): There are six PR65 Cameo coins at NGC (one in PR65 ★ Cameo) with three finer. PCGS reports five in PR65 Cameo (one PR65+ Cameo) and two finer submissions.

Heritage Commentary: Proof deliveries for 1868 were as follows: 200 sets on February 14; 100 sets each on March 2, March 25, April 28, and July 9 for a total of 600 sets. This lovely Gem Cameo proof would fit perfectly in a quality date or type collection.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (9/2008). NGC ID# 23WZ, PCGS# 85567

1869 Quarter, PR66 ★
Low Total-Mintage Date



98523 1869 PR66 ★ NGC. Briggs 2-B. Shades of blue and green at the rims darken to purple and rose near the stars and in the fields, lightening to apricot-orange and champagne-gold centrally. Only the eagle remains brilliant. Pinpoint definition and exceptionally preserved surfaces enhance the appeal of this superlative Premium Gem proof.

Variety: Briggs 2-B. The obverse is die-doubled, most noticeably on the bottom of the horizontal shield lines, Liberty's left hand, foot, and the drapery.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of 10 grading events in PR66 at NGC, but it is the only Star-designated example. There are three finer submissions at that service. PCGS shows five Premium Gem proofs and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: This is the final coin in a set of 12 proof quarters dated 1858-1869 that Gene Gardner purchased from Larry Whitlow in September 2008. Every proof in the set displays a similar toning pattern, and most examples either have a Star or Cameo designation. The consistency of color and preservation suggest they were formerly housed in the felt-lined cabinet of an old-time collector, and this could well represent their first appearance at auction in many decades.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (9/2008). NGC ID# 29SH, PCGS# 5568

1869 Seated Quarter, PR67
Among the Finest Graded, Ex: Kaufman



98524 1869 PR67 NGC. CAC. Briggs 2-B. Ex: Kaufman. Richly toned in blue and antique-copper shades, the surfaces are uniformly reflective without a troublesome blemish to report. A lamp is needed to discern cobalt-blue undertones, but the needle-sharp proof strike is immediately apparent. The lightest suggestion of red patination occurs along the lower reverse denticles.

Variety: Briggs 2-B. Strong die doubling is noted throughout the obverse.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports three submitted in PR67 (one in PR67 ★) and none finer, while the finest at PCGS are five in PR66.

Heritage Commentary: Like the other P-mint Motto Seated quarters from the 1860s, the 1869 was produced in limited numbers as a business strike (in this case, only 16,000 pieces). Consequently, high-quality date collectors are often forced to call upon exceptionally well-preserved proofs to represent this issue. This Superb Gem proof is a perfect candidate.

Provenance: Philip Kaufman Collection / Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2003), lot 6659. NGC ID# 29SH, PCGS# 5568

1869 Quarter, PR67 ★ Cameo
One of the Top-Certified Examples



98525 1869 PR67 ★ Cameo NGC. Briggs 2-B. The interior portions on each side show magnificent contrast between frosted silver devices and gleaming, minimally toned mirrors. Golden-orange patina comprises the innermost circle of color, yielding to violet and blue hues with faint greenish elements toward the rims. Magnificent preservation and eye appeal.

Variety: Briggs 2-B. The obverse is die doubled, most noticeably on the bottom of the horizontal shield lines, Liberty's left hand, and sandal.

Population Data (9/15): There are three PR67 Cameo submissions tied at the top of the NGC Census, all of which have a Star designation. PCGS has seen three PR66 Cameo coins and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: A paltry production of just 16,000 circulation strikes puts significant pressure on the 600 proofs struck in that year, especially considering business strikes are rated R.7 in Uncirculated condition. Still, proofs in this exalted grade are extreme rarities in their own right. This piece is tied with the Newman coin and one other example for the finest at either of the leading certification services.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2012), lot 3496. NGC ID# 23X2, PCGS# 85568

1871 Quarter, PR67
The Kaufman Collection Example



98526 1871 PR67 NGC. Briggs 1-A. Ex: Kaufman. With smooth surfaces and gorgeous original toning, it is little wonder that this coin is one of the finest certified survivors from this proof delivery. Swirls of reddish-copper color appear toward the upper right obverse and lower right reverse borders. The balance of the features are awash in cobalt-blue shades that yield to golden undertones at direct light angles. Every feature is unsurprisingly razor-sharp with glistening mint frost.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. The presence of a small die rust lump on the drapery above and to the right of (LIBERTY) on the scroll confirms the variety.

Population Data (9/15): Only four proofs are certified in this lofty grade at NGC with a single PR68 submission finer. PCGS reports four Premium Gems (one in PR66+) and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: According to Larry Briggs' *Comprehensive Encyclopedia of United States Liberty Seated Quarters* (1991), a number of extant proof 1871 Seated quarters are impaired to one degree or another. That could not be further from the truth with this unquestionably original, problem-free Superb Gem. From a mintage of 960 proofs.

Provenance: FUN Signature (*Heritage*, 1/2003), lot 6729; Baltimore Signature (*Heritage*, 7/2003), lot 6966. NGC ID# 23X4, PCGS# 5570

1872 Quarter, PR67 Cameo
High-Grade Circulation Strike Alternative



98527 1872 PR67 Cameo NGC. CAC. Briggs 3-C. Rotation under a light source reveals mottled blue, purple, and russet patina on both sides. Abundant reflectivity in the fields and a layer of frost over the devices generate the bold Cameo-designated contrast. A standout representative destined for a set of equally high quality.

Variety: Briggs 3-C. Star 5 has a large notch on the lower star point, and the reverse has a prominent die cut through the left shield border. This is the first use of this reverse die, which was subsequently used to strike proofs for eight years until it was retired in 1880.

Population Data (9/15): There are five PR67 Cameo grading events at NGC (one in PR67 ★ Cameo) with a single PR68 Cameo submission finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1872 has a mintage of 182,000 circulation strikes, but a significant number were probably melted following the passage of the Mint Act of 1873, according to Larry Briggs (1991). Examples are more challenging to find in high grades than the production total suggests, making high-end proofs like this excellent alternatives for collectors looking to assemble a top-notch date set.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rareities (11/2006). NGC ID# 23X5, PCGS# 85571

1873 No Arrows Quarter, PR65
Conditionally Rare



98528 1873 No Arrows PR65 NGC. CAC. Briggs 1-A. Well-preserved surfaces with deep mirrors and partially frosted devices underlie dusky violet-gray and sea-green patina on each side. The originality of this minimally marked Gem proof suggests it was set aside for numismatic purposes soon after its production and cherished by admiring collectors over the course of more than a century. Encapsulated in a prior generation holder.

Variety: Closed 3, Briggs 1-A. This variety has a virtually even date with the right edge of the 1 below the shield point. Struck from the same reverse die as the previous year with an identifying die cut in the left shield border.

Population Data (9/15): NGC enumerates 22 examples in PR65 (one in PR65+) with 13 pieces finer.

Heritage Commentary: All of the 600 No Arrows proof quarters struck at the Mint in 1873 feature a Closed 3, later changed to an Open 3 after complaints that the digits too closely resembled an 8. Larry Briggs notes that many proof quarters were released into circulation, and the number of certified coins at NGC and PCGS indicates the issue is conditionally rare at the Gem grade level.

Provenance: *Rarities Sale (Bowers and Merena, 8/1996), lot 105. NGC ID# 23X6, PCGS# 5572*

1873 No Arrows Quarter, PR66 Cameo
Three Pieces Finer at NGC



98529 1873 No Arrows PR66 Cameo NGC. CAC. Briggs 1-A. Gold, blue, and rose-violet hues intermingle over the obverse with largely untuned centers. The reverse is almost all-brilliant aside from a band of colors similar to those seen on the obverse along the upper right border. Thickly frosted motifs contrast decidedly against watery, near-flawless fields, providing this Premium Gem Cameo proof with eye-catching visual appeal. Two small parallel hairlines occur diagonally over Liberty's chest.

Variety: Closed 3 in the date, as on all 1873 No Arrows proof quarters. Briggs 1-A, the only proof dies for the issue. Reverse struck from the 1872 proof die.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of four PR66 Cameo submissions at NGC (one in PR66 ★ Cameo) with four finer. PCGS reports three in PR66 Cameo and four finer.

Heritage Commentary: With a mintage of 600 proofs, the 1873 No Arrows issue is fairly available in most grades without a Cameo designation and only becomes rare at the Gem grade level. However, all representatives with affirmed Cameo contrast are rarities, regardless of condition.

Provenance: *Lawrence H. Gardner Collection from the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society (Stack's, 3/2005), lot 384. NGC ID# 23X6, PCGS# 85572*

1873 Arrows Quarter, PR67
Two Graded Finer



98530 1873 Arrows PR67 NGC. Briggs 5-D. Originality is the defining characteristic of this wonderful Superb Gem proof. Each side is toned in deep shades of ice-blue and rose-violet with mint-green and golden accents throughout. The glassy, mirrorlike surfaces lack any flaws visible without magnification.

Variety: Briggs 5-D, the only proof dies for the issue. Struck from the 1872 Type One reverse die with the diagnostic die cut line through the left shield border.

Population Data (9/15): Only three submissions have garnered a PR67 grade by NGC with two PR68 finer. The finest at PCGS are four in PR66.

Heritage Commentary: The year 1873 witnessed the production of proof quarters of both the No Arrows (Closed 3) and Arrows (Open 3) type. No Arrows proof quarters were struck to the extent of 600 pieces. Larry Briggs and Walter Breen agree that the Arrows proof mintage totaled 540 coins. Breen's *Proof Encyclopedia* (1989) cites the research of Harry X Boesel, explaining that 100 coins each were were struck on July 31, August 11, September 19, and October 23. An additional 50 proofs were manufactured on December 12, followed by another 50 pieces on December 24 for a total of 500 in all. The extra 40 coins, Breen suggests, were likely struck at some point during the final quarter. The *Guide Book* differs slightly on the issue's mintage. Although the 2014 edition cites Briggs and Breen's total of 540 proofs, the 2015 and 2016 editions report that only 500 examples were produced.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (7/2000). NGC ID# 23XR, PCGS# 5574

1874 Arrows Quarter, PR66
Electric-Blue, Rose, and Violet Toning



98531 1874 Arrows PR66 NGC. Briggs 5-D. Vivid electric-blue, rose, and violet tones blanket each side without inhibiting the deep proof mirroring in the fields. Four minuscule reeding marks above QUAR. serve as pedigree identifiers. This Premium Gem proof has excellent aesthetic appeal and is devoid of any other imperfections. Housed in a former generation holder.

Variety: Briggs 5-D. The left arrow slants significantly upward.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 29 in PR66 (one PR66 ★) with six finer, up to a single PR68 ★ example.

Heritage Commentary: This is one of 700 proof quarters struck in 1874 with the arrows signifying the slight weight increase first authorized in 1873. The Arrows design was implemented for only two years and is essential for the completion of a type set. In their August 1996 Rarities sale, Bowers and Merena described this proof as a "splendid gem specimen undoubtedly from an old-time collection."

Provenance: Rarities Sale (Bowers and Merena, 8/1996), lot 108. NGC ID# 23XS, PCGS# 5575

1875 Quarter, PR67 ★ Cameo
Among the Rarest With Motto Proof Issues
Remarkable Eye Appeal



98532 1875 PR67 ★ Cameo NGC. Briggs 5-F. This Superb Gem proof displays absolutely remarkable visual and technical quality. The centers maintain their brilliance, surrounded by a medley of violet, ice-blue, and golden-orange toning. Bold contrast and near-flawless preservation characterize the surfaces. The Star designation could scarcely be more appropriate.

Variety: Briggs 5-F. All stars are sharply struck with full centers. The date is positioned high. The 1872 Reverse C proof die was used once again in 1875, though the diagnostic die cut is only faintly visible through the left shield border.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports two submissions in PR67 Cameo (one in PR67 ★ Cameo, one in PR67+ ★ Cameo) with a single PR68 ★ finer. The finest Cameo submissions at PCGS are two in PR66.

Heritage Commentary: In 1991, Larry Briggs wrote in his *Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Quarters*: "Proofs were struck with two different obverses and two different reverses! Auction sales over the last decade show the 1875 proof quarter to be the rarest proof quarter of either the 1870's or 1880's proof quarters! Possibly the mintage [630 to 700 pieces] being incorrect or many proofs of this year being melted. Regardless quite elusive and underrated." The 1875 remains one of the rarest With Motto proof issues.

Provenance: Purchased from Haymor (4/2009). NGC ID# 23X7, PCGS# 85576

1876 Quarter, PR68
Tied for Finest, Ex: Kaufman



98533 1876 PR68 NGC. Briggs-Unlisted. Ex: Kaufman. This extraordinary Superb Gem proof has survived the passage of time while avoiding even the most trivial indication of mishandling. Both sides have developed a rich layer of original toning in blended antique-copper, lavender-gray, salmon-pink, champagne-gold, and blue-green. The more vivid hues are mostly evident at direct angles, but even the most casual glance will reveal the unsurpassed technical and aesthetic quality.

Variety: This unlisted variety pairs Briggs' Obverse 9 with Reverse H. The date slopes upward with the right edge of the 1 aligned with the shield point. The Type One reverse is left over from 1872, identified by a prominent die cut through the left shield border.

Population Data (9/15): This PR68 representative is tied at the top of the NGC *Census* with one other PR68 ★ submission. The finest at PCGS is also a single PR68.

Heritage Commentary: The issue's original mintage of 1,150 proofs is unusually high for the type, most likely reflecting the federal government's anticipation of increased sales during the United States' Centennial year. The unlisted die marriage is sure to spark interest among Seated specialists, and the high grade should generate spirited competition between Registry enthusiasts.

Provenance: Orlando Sale (*Superior*, 10/1992), lot 393; John and Rebecca Moores Collection of Important U.S. Coins (Sotheby's, 11/1999), lot 17; Philip Kaufman Collection / Central States Signature (Heritage, 5/2003), lot 6150. NGC ID# 3TWJ, PCGS# 5577

1877 Quarter, Colorful PR67
The Single Finest Example at PCGS



98534 1877 PR67 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-B. This Superb Gem proof is a near-flawless representative, displaying eye-catching patina on both sides that includes blended hues of purple, cobalt-blue, mint-green, orange, and russet. The field-device contrast is more pronounced on the reverse, showing moderately frosted motifs that stand out against seemingly bottomless fields. The obverse is similarly mirrored but with minimal frost over the design elements.

Variety: Briggs 1-B, Type Two Reverse. The date slopes slightly upward from left to right.

Population Data (9/15): This is the sole finest example at PCGS. NGC shows two submissions in PR67 and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: The Mint accomplished a small production of just 510 proof quarters in 1877 compared to 1,150 pieces in 1876 and 800 examples the following year. This is one of the lowest proof mintages in the series.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (4/2006). NGC ID# 23X9, PCGS# 5578

1878 Quarter, PR66
Reflective, Near-Flawless Surfaces



98535 1878 PR66 NGC. Briggs 4-D. This splendid Premium Gem proof likely resided in an old Whitman folder for many years. The obverse features ice-blue and sea-green iridescence at the rims, ceding to rose-lavender and peach-orange coloration over the interior portions. The reverse shows mostly brilliant centers with light gold and olive peripheral toning. Deeply mirrored with virtually unmarked surfaces.

Variety: Briggs 4-D. A faint die crack between stars 3 and 4, and a die lump at the left base of Liberty's staff identify the obverse. The reverse die, one of two employed in 1878, shows a prominent die lump between horizontal lines 3 and 4 on the shield.

Population Data (9/15): NGC and PCGS show 10 Premium Gem proofs apiece. There are four finer submissions at NGC and two at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: A high circulation-strike mintage of over 2.2 million coins makes the 800 proofs far more elusive in relative terms. Survivorship of the 1878 is comparable to that of other contemporary proof issues, and Premium Gems such as this are very rarely encountered.

Provenance: Melrose Bay Collection / ANA Signature (Heritage, 7/2005), lot 6040. NGC ID# 23XA, PCGS# 5579

1878 Quarter, PR67
One Proof Graded Finer



98536 1878 PR67 NGC. Briggs 4-D. Mint-green complements violet and blue patina on the obverse, while the reverse is a shade lighter with mostly golden-gray coloration. This Superb Gem proof is entirely devoid of consequential flaws, even upon close study. A thin, pedigree-identifying toning streak runs horizontally across the upper obverse.

Variety: Briggs 4-D, attributed by several large die lumps on the reverse shield.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports three PR67s with a single PR68 ★ finer. PCGS has seen two submissions in PR67 and none rated higher.

Heritage Commentary: The year 1878 marks the introduction of the popularly collected Morgan dollar, and on a related note, it represents the final year before quarter and half dollar mintages began to drop precipitously as silver bullion was directed toward the production of dollars. Proofs from this issue (800 coins struck) are considerably more challenging in high grades than those of subsequent dates.

Gene Gardner also owned the ex: Eric Newman PR68 ★ NGC example of this date, which brought \$21,150 in our Gardner Part III Signature (Heritage, 5/2015), lot 98390.

Provenance: Purchased from Kevin Lipton (1/2013). NGC ID# 23XA, PCGS# 5579

1880 Quarter, PR67
Beautiful Rainbow-Toned Obverse



98537 1880 PR67 NGC. Briggs 2-A. A medley of gold, blue, green, and rose-violet patina dominates the obverse, especially over Liberty's portrait, while the reverse is mostly electric-blue and mint-green. Fully brought up in all areas (typical of a proof strike), the surfaces fail to reveal a single blemish that would call into question the PR67 grade. A lovely, original representative of this, the second lowest total-mintage issue from the conclusion of the Seated quarter series (1879-1891).

Variety: Briggs 2-A. This variety shows the only obverse proof die for the year paired with a Type One reverse proof die that was first used in 1872. A large cut extends from the eagle's feathers through the left (facing) shield line.

Population Data (9/15): The NGC Census shows 16 submissions in PR67 (three in PR67 ★) with five PR68 (one PR68+) finer. PCGS reports nine PR67 (one PR67+) and two PR68 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Breen's *Proof Encyclopedia* (1989) states that, like proof dimes issued in the same year, "some 1,000 [1880 proof quarters] struck in first quarter, 460 in second, total 1,460 of which 1,355 were delivered in the sets, the remaining 105 melted as unsold." Gene Gardner also owned for a short while the ex: Eric Newman PR68+ NGC example of this date.

Provenance: ANA Signature Heritage, 8/2001), lot 5934; Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 10/2001), lot 6324; purchased from Chris Napolitano (11/2001). NGC ID# 23XC, PCGS# 5581

1881 Seated Quarter, PR68
Among the Finest Proofs Certified
Amazingly Patinated, Virtually Pristine



98538 1881 PR68 NGC. **Briggs 2-B.** This amazing Superb Gem proof offers sheer delight for the toning enthusiast and high-grade aficionado. The central obverse shows rich rose coloration, while the center reverse displays pale green-gold patina. The peripheries offer intense sapphire-blue and pale-emerald bands as the eye moves closer to the rim. Overall, the surfaces are virtually pristine and eminently appealing.

Variety: Briggs 2-B, identified by several die scratches in the upper loop of the first 8 in the date.

Population Data (9/15): Eight PR68 submissions are tied for finest at NGC (one in PR68 ★). The top-graded examples at PCGS are seven in PR67.

Heritage Commentary: The 1881 Seated quarter is always of interest to collectors because of the issue's low total mintage: Only 975 proofs were struck in addition to a mere 12,000 circulation strikes.

Gene Gardner also owned (for a short while) the ex: Newman PR68+ Cameo PCGS example of this date. That coin was lot 30413 in our Gardner Part I Signature (Heritage, 6/2014), where it realized \$41,125.

Provenance: *Baltimore Signature (Heritage, 3/2009), lot 1092; purchased from Kevin Lipton (11/2009).* NGC ID# AEXT, PCGS# 85582

1881 Quarter, PR67 Ultra Cameo
Extremely Rare So Boldly Contrasted



98539 1881 PR67 Ultra Cameo NGC. **Briggs 2-B.** This Superb Gem Ultra Cameo proof displays absolutely stunning visual quality: The deeply mirrored fields are seemingly jet-black, and the beautifully frosted devices offer magnificent contrast on both sides. The surfaces are essentially pristine with a minor toning spot near the U in QUAR. that will identify this coin in subsequent auction appearances.

Variety: Briggs 2-B. A single die pair was used to strike proofs, showing die scratches in the upper loop of the first 8 in 1881. Both 8s show repunching.

Population Data (9/15): There are four PR67 Ultra Cameo grading events at NGC with none finer. A single PR68 Deep Cameo is finer at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: The Mint produced a sizeable mintage of 975 proof quarters in 1881, but only a small handful of examples display sufficient white-on-black contrast to merit an Ultra Cameo designation. Remarkably, just four submissions out of the 294 at NGC (1.4%) have been awarded such a designation.

Provenance: *FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2007), lot 2990; National Money Show Signature (Heritage, 5/2007), lot 677; Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 5/2007), lot 900.* NGC ID# 23XD, PCGS# 95582

1882 Seated Quarter, PR67
None Finer at PCGS



98540 1882 PR67 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 2-B. The deeply reflective fields sparkle under a moderate coating of natural cobalt-blue toning. The obverse is somewhat lighter with magenta coloration primarily at the central portion. All design features are fully struck (as expected), and the surfaces are nearly pristine overall. A few marks on the PCGS holder should not be confused with surface problems. An appealing Superb Gem proof, carefully preserved with excellent eye appeal.

Variety: Briggs 2-B. The positioning of the the left edge of the 2 over the right edge of a dentil confirms this coin's proof status.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of 11 PR67 examples at PCGS with none finer. NGC shows 16 in PR67 (one PR67 ★, two PR67+ ★) but none numerically finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1882 is a low total-mintage date with 15,200 circulation strikes and 1,100 proofs. In terms of availability, the proofs are readily accessible through Gem condition but become more elusive than their business strike counterparts at the Premium Gem level and higher.

Provenance: Pittsburgh Signature (Heritage, 8/2004), lot 4066. NGC ID# 23XE, PCGS# 5583

1883 Quarter, PR68
Ex: Kaufman, Pristine Surfaces



98541 1883 PR68 NGC. Briggs 1-A. Ex: Kaufman. This original Superb Gem proof has remained impeccably preserved from the time of issue. The obverse is awash in attractive slate-blue patina with whispers of lilac, mint-green, and cobalt-blue iridescence. The left reverse is deeply toned, while the right side is brighter with scintillating reddish-orange toning. Each side is free of even a single noticeable contact mark, and, as expected, the devices are fully defined.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. The Philadelphia Mint used one reverse die (Briggs A) to coin 14,400 business strikes and 1,039 proofs in 1883. However, the two deliveries are easily distinguishable by the obverse die. All proofs were struck from a blundered die with the tops of an errant 83 in the denticles below the digits 88 in the date.

Population Data (9/15): This is the only PR68 example at NGC, surpassed by a single PR69. The finest at PCGS are 10 in PR67.

Heritage Commentary: The 1883 is one of several low-mintage dates at the end of this series that remain perennially popular among collectors who specialize in Seated Liberty coinage. While proofs are relatively available in an absolute sense, survivors typically grade no finer than PR65, with the average certified grade just short of PR64.

Provenance: Phil Kaufman Collection / FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2003), lot 6473; purchased from Kevin Lipton (3/2003). NGC ID# 23XE, PCGS# 5584

1884 Quarter, PR67
Only 8,875 Coins Struck in All



98542 1884 PR67 NGC. Briggs 2-B. This carefully preserved, moderately toned Superb Gem proof displays wonderfully original surfaces, both sides sporting a coating of multicolored iridescence that is noticeably deeper on the reverse. Shades include violet, russet, and silver-gray on the obverse and purple, blue, and rose on the other side.

Variety: Briggs 2-B. The left base of the 1 is centered over the dentil as opposed to over the space between dentils, as seen on circulation strikes.

Population Data (9/15): The NGC *Census* records 17 examples in PR67, while the PCGS *Population Report* shows seven Superb Gem proofs. There are two finer submissions at each service.

Heritage Commentary: A paltry total of 8,875 quarters was struck at the Philadelphia Mint in 1884, with the final three digits representing the proof output. The proof issue only begins to pose a challenge in Superb Gem condition, though collectors will have difficulty locating a higher-graded example. A perfect type candidate.

Provenance: *Denver Signature* (Heritage, 8/2006), lot 1186. NGC ID# 3TWH, PCGS# 5585

1885 Quarter, PR67
Undesignated Cameo Contrast
Tied for Finest Graded, CAC



98543 1885 PR67 NGC. CAC. Briggs 3-C. Despite the absence of a Cameo designation, each side is strongly contrasted with frosty central motifs set against jet-black fields. Green and peach-orange elements accent rich shades of blue and violet that surround the lightly toned interiors. A Superb Gem proof of outstanding all-around quality.

Variety: Briggs 3-C. The proof dies are identified by the date placement and thin numerals.

Population Data (9/15): This proof is among 14 PR67 submissions at NGC with none finer. PCGS has graded two Superb Gem proofs and none finer. This is one of two in this grade with the CAC green approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: Throughout the 1880s, inflows of silver from abroad and large stocks of quarters in Treasury vaults reduced the need to mint new coins. A small number of quarters were manufactured symbolically for circulation each year along with at most 1,100 proofs. In 1885, circulation and proof strikes totaled 13,600 and 930 coins respectively.

Provenance: *Purchased from U.S. Coins* (11/2001). NGC ID# 23XH, PCGS# 5586

1886 Quarter, PR67 Cameo
Ex: Eric P. Newman Collection



98544 1886 PR67 Cameo NGC. CAC. Briggs 2-B. Ex: Eric P. Newman Collection. The light ice-blue patina on the peripheral stars, date, and legends on both sides makes them “pop” against the dark, deeply mirrored fields, both enhancing the cameo contrast and emphasizing the full proof strike to delightful effect. The concentric toning in the centers is pinkish-silver on the reverse and amber-gold on the obverse.

Variety: Briggs 2-B. The date digits are thick and uneven compared to the thin, level numerals found on circulation strikes.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 21 submissions in PR67 Cameo (four in PR67+ Cameo, two in PR67 ★ Cameo) and a single PR68 Cameo finer. The finest examples at PCGS are seven in PR67 (one PR67+) Cameo.

Heritage Commentary: The Gardner Collection contains many upgrades and additions acquired during the sale of the Eric P. Newman Collection. Gene Gardner seemed particularly drawn to the proof Seated quarters in that sale, unsurprising given their technical quality, spectacular multicolor toning, and fresh-to-market nature. This is one such coin, now boasting two of the most coveted pedigrees in American numismatics.

Provenance: Eric P. Newman Collection, Part II (*Heritage*, 11/2013), lot 33203. NGC ID# 23XJ, PCGS# 85587

1887 Quarter, Vibrantly Toned PR67
Popular Low-Mintage Issue



98545 1887 PR67 NGC. Briggs 2-B. Sea-green, ice-blue, violet, and orange tones seamlessly merge from the rims to the central obverse, while the reverse displays purple patina in the fields with an overlay of electric-blue iridescence on the devices. An essentially unmarked, visually delightful Superb Gem.

Variety: Briggs 2-B. The proof dies show the date positioned slightly lower, slanting downward from left to right. A die lump occurs along the lower left edge of the shield on the reverse.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 10 grading events in PR67 and two in PR68. The finest at PCGS are four in PR67.

Heritage Commentary: The allure of a low total-mintage issue such as this (10,000 circulation strikes, 710 proofs) is undeniable, yet enough examples survive in both formats to satisfy demand through Premium Gem condition. The issue only becomes elusive in this high grade, where proofs outnumber business strikes by a small margin at the leading grading services.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (8/2008). NGC ID# 23XK, PCGS# 5588

1889 Quarter, PR68 ★
Flawless Registry Set Essential



98546 1889 PR68 ★ NGC. Briggs 2-B. Cobalt-blue, purple, and champagne-gold toning drapes the obverse of this Superb Gem proof, leaving the reverse mostly ice-blue and mint-green. Deeply mirrored fields highlight the frosted central motifs, and the only flaw on this magnificent example is the uniform softness of high-point detail that is typically found on coins of this issue. An unimprovable proof.

Variety: Briggs 2-B. The right edge of the 1 lines up with the seventh vertical shield line, and all stars are lightly recut.

Population Data (9/15): Only two out of the four PR68 submissions at NGC have been awarded a Star designation. PCGS reports two PR68 submissions, and neither firm has seen a finer coin.

Heritage Commentary: Struck toward the end of this well-known, low-mintage decade, the 1889 quarter saw only 12,000 circulation strikes plus 711 proofs. The low availability of business strikes naturally places more date pressure on the proofs. As one of the best-preserved representatives of the date, this is a Registry Set essential.

Provenance: ANA Signature (Heritage, 10/2012), lot 4181. NGC ID# 44CX, PCGS# 5590

1891 Quarter, PR67
Just One Example Finer at PCGS



98547 1891 PR67 PCGS. Briggs 1-A. The obverse surfaces of this magnificent Superb Gem proof Seated quarter are deeply toned in shades of blue and green, while the reverse is essentially untoned with peripheral light lavender and gold patina and profound cameo contrast. The fields are brightly reflective beneath the toning, and the strike is sharper than usually seen on the 1891, which often lacks detail because of excessively polished or widely spaced dies.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. The only proof dies for the issue are identified by the date placement and several recut vertical lines on the reverse shield.

Population Data (9/15): There are four and 14 PR67 submissions at PCGS and NGC, respectively. PCGS reports a single PR68 finer, while NGC counts four in higher grades.

Heritage Commentary: Only 600 proofs were minted in 1891, and PR67 survivors are very rare. This piece is among four proof 1891 quarters that formed part of the Gardner Collection.

Provenance: Stamford Coinfest Signature (Heritage, 10/2010), lot 3606. NGC ID# 23XP, PCGS# 5592

1891 Quarter, Vividly Toned PR67
Early NGC Holder



98548 1891 PR67 NGC. CAC. Briggs 1-A. Arguably among the most eye-catching quarters in the Gardner Collection, this Superb Gem proof boasts electric-blue centers that cede to jade-green, yellow, and rose-violet. The effect is especially vivid on the reverse. Reflective fields, razor-sharp motifs, and nearly blemish-free surfaces are unsurprising given the lofty grade. Housed in an NGC “no line fatty” holder with a green CAC approval sticker.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. The reverse die, left over from the previous year, shows crumbling within all A's in the legend. Several stars are lightly recut.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 14 submitted in PR67 and four finer. PCGS enumerates four in PR67, surpassed by a single PR68.

Heritage Commentary: Off the market for nearly 16 years and still in its original NGC holder with an added “green bean” sticker, this is a top-quality Superb Gem with the eye appeal to match its outstanding technical grade. From a mintage of 600 proofs.

Provenance: Sotheby's (11/1999), lot 24. NGC ID# 23XP, PCGS# 5592

1891 Quarter, PR64 Cameo
Lightly Toned Final-Year Type



98549 1891 PR64 Cameo PCGS. CAC. Briggs 1-A. A starkly contrasted and minimally toned final-year representative, this Choice proof shows a trace of light powder-blue and olive-tan patina in the fields. The latter color is more prominent on the reverse. Frosty devices and watery mirrors account for the Cameo designation, while the CAC endorsement attests to eye appeal, originality, and quality within the assigned grade.

Variety: Briggs 1-A. Proofs show the left base of the 1 positioned over the left edge of the dentil. The reverse was first used in 1890, showing recut vertical shield lines.

Population Data (9/15): This proof is tied with 23 other PR64 Cameo submissions at PCGS with 25 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The Seated Liberty design was used for the final time in 1891, after dominating American silver coinage for much of the 19th century. The Mint struck 600 proof quarters in that year, accompanying a generous circulation-strike mintage of nearly 4 million coins. The Gardner Collection is largely characterized by colorfully patinated coins, but it is easy to see why Gene Gardner was drawn to this minimally toned piece.

Provenance: Empire State Collection (Stack's, 1/1997), lot 552. NGC ID# 597E, PCGS# 85592

BARBER QUARTERS

1892 Barber Quarter, MS67 Ideal Type Coin



98550 1892 MS67 NGC. Type One Reverse. Deeply luminous, steel-gray surfaces glow with original mint frost on this lovely Superb Gem, revealing hints of olive-gold and champagne color when tilted in-hand. The strike is superior, and close study of Liberty's cheek and other problem areas fails to reveal mentionable flaws. Liberty's profile is minutely doubled.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 22 submissions in MS67 (two MS67+) and seven finer; PCGS has seen 31 coins in this grade (three MS67+) with three finer.

Heritage Commentary: The Barber quarter was a novelty item in 1892, the first design change in the denomination that middle-aged and younger generations of Americans had thus far had the experience of witnessing. More than 8.2 million pieces were struck and many were saved in Mint State. Nonetheless, the effects of time and inevitable mishandling keep most pieces from achieving the lofty Superb Gem grade. This beautiful coin is a notable exception.

Provenance: ANA Signature (Heritage, 8/2001), lot 5950; purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (2/2002). NGC ID# 23XT, PCGS# 5601

1892-O Quarter, MS67 Tied for Finest at PCGS



98551 1892-O MS67 PCGS. CAC. Type One Reverse. This magnificent Superb Gem is boldly struck, showing frosty, radiant luster shining through a veil of warm champagne toning that deepens to olive-gold and amber in the peripheral recesses. A couple of interior die cuds are present, one on the upper-left edge of Liberty's cap and the other at the lower-right corner of the neck truncation.

Population Data (9/15): This Superb Gem is tied with two others as the finest at PCGS; NGC accounts for one other in this grade plus a single MS68 example (also ex: Gardner). Two in MS67 have the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1892-O Barber quarter is somewhat scarcer in Mint State than its Philadelphia counterpart, partly due to a substantially lower mintage of less than 2.5 million pieces. The issue is rare in Gem or finer condition, and Superb Gems such as the present example are essential for a high-ranking Registry Set.

Provenance: ANA Signature (Heritage, 8/1999), lot 6936; Santa Clara Signature (Heritage, 11/1999), lot 6503. NGC ID# 23XU, PCGS# 5602

1893-O Barber Quarter, MS67
Pale Champagne Luster



98552 1893-O MS67 NGC. CAC. This impeccably well-preserved Superb Gem displays unusually radiant, frosty luster shining through a warm veil of pale golden toning. Stars 3 and 11 on the obverse, as well as the eagle's right (facing) talons on the reverse, are incompletely defined, but there are no other complaints on this beautiful 1893-O.

Population Data (9/15): NGC records three submitted in MS67, with a single MS68 (ex: Eliasberg, Gardner) finer; the finest at PCGS are three pieces in MS67 (one in MS67+). Two in MS67 have the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1893-O Barber quarter was a workhorse issue: Nearly 3.4 million pieces were struck, but high-grade Mint State representatives went unsaved by most collectors. Modern-day population data show a significant drop above the Gem grade level, and Superb Gems, such as the present piece, as extremely rare.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (10/1999). NGC ID# 23XX, PCGS# 5605

1893-S Quarter, MS67
Tied With Two Others for Finest Known



98553 1893-S MS67 PCGS. CAC. This exquisite Superb Gem displays sharp design features and fully original iridescent color. Shades of lavender, mint-gold, and cobalt-blue encompass each side. Simply describing a coin as "original" is sometimes a source of contention among numismatists, but in this case it absolutely applies.

Population Data (9/15): This Superb Gem is tied with one other as the finest at PCGS, while NGC shows a single MS67 as finest.

Heritage Commentary: The 1893-S is a significantly challenging date in Mint State, regardless of grade, but its availability becomes notably scant at the Gem grade level, and anything finer is extremely rare. Our Permanent Auction Archives show only three previous appearances of this issue in MS67, one an earlier offering of the present coin, while the other two are duplicate offerings of one other example.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2005), lot 6601. NGC ID# 23XY, PCGS# 5606

1894-O Quarter, MS66
Consistently Toned, Lovely Surfaces



98554 1894-O MS66 PCGS. CAC. This delightful New Orleans Premium Gem quarter exhibits exceptionally frosty, delicate luster underlying blended shades of mint-green, lemon-gold, lavender-gray, and aqua-blue toning. Trivial softness appears on the eagle's right (facing) talons, but the strike is otherwise sharp. Only a few wispy grazes on the obverse preclude an even finer assessment from PCGS.

Population Data (9/15): This piece is tied with nine others as the finest at PCGS; NGC has seen seven examples in this grade (one in MS66 ★) and a single MS67 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1894-O Barber quarter is seldom seen in any Mint State grade, and when found, is almost always MS64 or lower. Gem or finer representatives, such as this Premium Gem, are significant rarities and in high demand among Registry Set competitors.

Provenance: *Purchased from Legend Numismatics (12/2011).* NGC ID# 23Y2, PCGS# 5608

1894-S Quarter, MS64
Captivating Prooflike Fields
Ex: Clapp-Eliasberg



98555 1894-S MS64 PCGS. CAC. Ex: Eliasberg. The mintmark is set far right. The quality of this piece is incredible, not only for the Choice grade level but for the issue itself; boldly rendered design elements are set against a backdrop of beautiful prooflike fields that deliver noticeable cameo contrast beneath a thin veil of iridescent gold toning. In the Eliasberg catalog, the cataloger wrote of this coin: "If the term *branch mint Proof* is applicable in this series, certainly this coin qualifies."

Population Data (9/15): PCGS lists 59 in MS64 (one MS64+) with 23 finer; NGC has seen 61 pieces in this grade (one MS64+) with 13 finer. This is among five in this grade with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: Perhaps one of the most eye-appealing circulation strikes of the entire 1894-S quarter issue, this outstanding prooflike specimen also has an impressive pedigree, having been included in just three landmark collections in its century-plus of existence. This is only this piece's second public auction appearance, and one can only speculate when its next owner will be able to part with it.

Provenance: *Acquired directly from the San Francisco Mint by J.M. Clapp (11/1895); John H. Clapp; Clapp Estate, to Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. (1942); Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection (Bowers and Merena, 4/1997), lot 1554.* NGC ID# 23Y3, PCGS# 5609

1894-S Quarter, Luminous MS67
Unsurpassed Technical Merit



98556 1894-S MS67 PCGS. CAC. Intense cartwheel luster rolls serenely beneath the mottled olive, smoky-lavender, and electric-blue hues that blanket both sides. The impeccable strike is well above average for the series and draws forth every last design element. As befits the high grade, both the devices and the fields are devoid of surface detractions. This is a magnificent coin for the collector who must have only the finest.

Variety: DL-201. The centered mintmark position classifies it according to David Lawrence's *Complete Guide to Barber Quarters*.

Population Data (9/15): This magnificent Registry Set Superb Gem is tied with one other (also a PCGS coin) for the finest certified.

Heritage Commentary: Although Gene Gardner enjoys classifying his coins according to variety, the David Lawrence and Larry Briggs references identifying Barber and Seated quarter varieties, respectively, never caught on as much as the Wiley-Bugert Seated half varieties. We suspect an update to the quarter references (the Briggs book was published in 1991) might spur renewed interest.

Consignor Commentary: One of two specimens graded MS67 by PCGS (none at NGC). Having seen and owned both, I would say this is by far the stronger of the two. Bought at a Heritage sale in 2000, captioned "Extraordinary Superb Gem Uncirculated" and where the cataloger noted that this was a coin which combined originality with technical quality. One word says it all, "magnificent," but I would add two others, "finest known."

Provenance: *Central States Signature* (Heritage, 5/2000), lot 7324. NGC ID# 23Y3, PCGS# 5609

1895 Quarter, Colorful MS66
Boldly Impressed



98557 1895 MS66 PCGS. This attractive Premium Gem 1895 is spectacularly toned in rich multicolored shades of turquoise-blue, crimson-rose, violet, and russet with an area of near-brilliance in the central obverse. The stars, shield lines, talons, and fletchings are fully brought up, while mild incompleteness occurs on the hair curls below LIBERTY, and the upper wing and leg feathers.

Population Data (6/15): PCGS lists 12 coins in MS66 with three finer submissions, while NGC shows 10 in MS66 and five finer.

Heritage Commentary: This relatively high-mintage date (4.4 million coins struck) is only rarely seen in such an outstanding grade. The desirability of this condition rarity is enhanced by the wonderful multicolor toning, sharp strike, and virtually unabraded surfaces.

Provenance: *Long Beach Signature* (Heritage, 9/2005), lot 2725. NGC ID# 23Y4, PCGS# 5610

1895 Barber Quarter, MS66
Full Talons and Fletchings



98558 1895 MS66 NGC. CAC. Vibrant luster shines through the antique-gold, slate-blue, and reddish patina that swathes this Premium Gem. Perhaps the most impressive aspect is the razor-sharp strike, showing full definition on the stars, wing feathers, talons, and arrow fletchings.

Population Data (9/15): This MS66 is tied with nine others at NGC (one Star-designated), which shows five finer submissions. PCGS records 12 in MS66 and three MS67 finer. This is among four in this grade with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: "A slightly better date, like the 1894-P. Scarcer than later years of similar mintage," according to David Lawrence in *The Complete Guide to Barber Quarters* (1994). Comparable Premium Gems with CAC approval are extremely rare.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (1/2004). NGC ID# 23Y4, PCGS# 5610

1895-S Quarter, Iridescent Near-Gem
The Pittman Coin



98559 1895-S MS64 PCGS. Ex: Pittman. Blushes of iridescent rose, peach-orange, russet, and violet blanket each side of this near-Gem 1895-S with mint-green hues in the recesses of the obverse. Frosty luster issues from the underlying surfaces. For a date that typically comes well-struck and prooflike, this is an outstanding representative with minimal marks.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS lists 17 submitted in MS64 with 11 finer. NGC shows 19 in Choice condition, also with 11 finer.

Heritage Commentary: David Akers wrote of this coin in the Pittman catalog: "... the coin has excellent overall eye appeal. This is [a] rare and underrated issue, especially in grades above Choice Uncirculated." The 1895-S is a conditionally rare date with a production of 1.7 million coins.

Provenance: Abe Kosoff (5/1955), lot 137; John Jay Pittman; Pittman Collection, Part II (David Akers, 5/1998), lot 1378. NGC ID# 23Y6, PCGS# 5612

1896 Barber Quarter, MS66
Attractively Smooth Surfaces



98560 1896 MS66 NGC. A lack of detracting abrasions is the most distinct attribute this Premium Gem possesses, and only upon close study with a glass are a few insignificant grazes noticed on the cheek, precluding an even finer grade. The design elements are boldly rendered, illuminated by satiny champagne luster that deepens slightly to amber-gold around the peripheries. Arguably, this piece is about as nice as can be expected for the grade level.

Population Data (9/15): There are eight coins in MS66 at NGC and three finer; PCGS has seen nine coins in this grade (two in MS66+) with five finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1896 is the only Barber quarter issue of the year that is readily available in Mint State, ideal for date representation. Nonetheless, Gem or finer pieces are conditionally rare and experience high demand from advanced collectors and Registry Set competitors.

Provenance: *Purchased from Jason Carter (9/2004).* NGC ID# 23Y7, PCGS# 5613

1896-O Barber Quarter, MS66
Lovely Original Toning



98561 1896-O MS66 NGC. Glowing luster highlights the frosty, well-preserved surfaces of this original Premium Gem semikey. Warm central hues of amber and gold yield to deeper aquamarine around the peripheries, while close study of Liberty's cheek and other problem areas fails to reveal any noteworthy abrasions. The reverse is unusually well-struck, although the obverse shows trivial weakness on several stars.

Population Data (9/15): NGC records five MS66 and a single MS67 finer; PCGS has seen just three examples in this grade, also with a sole MS67 coin finer.

Heritage Commentary: Somewhat overshadowed by its San Francisco counterpart, the 1896-O is an underrated semikey in high grades. Mint State representatives are scarce, regardless of grade, and pieces grading finer than even the MS63 level are genuinely rare. The Premium Gem example here offered is truly outstanding.

Provenance: *Purchased from Hanks (11/1998).* NGC ID# 23Y8, PCGS# 5614

1897-O Quarter, MS66
Ex: Clapp-Eliasberg



98562 1897-O MS66 PCGS. CAC. Ex: Eliasberg. Frosty, glowing surfaces are largely devoid of abrasions on each side of this high-end Premium Gem 1897-O quarter, while lovely original toning paints the centers in warm sun-gold hues and the peripheries in deeper aqua-blue and violet. The eagle's right (facing) talons are a trifle soft, but the strike is otherwise pleasing.

Variety: Variety 201, according to David Lawrence, writing in his *Complete Guide to Barber Quarters*, with the mintmark centered between the R and the D.

Population Data (9/15): The finest at PCGS are 28 in MS66 (11 in MS66+); NGC shows five coins in this grade with three finer. The unusually high number of Premium Gems reported by PCGS likely reflects a number of resubmissions.

Heritage Commentary: Our Permanent Auction Archives show only 10 previous appearances of this date in the past two decades, with no more than eight different coins therein represented. This is perhaps a more accurate reflection of the 1897-O quarter's high-grade rarity than is the certified population data. The opportunity to buy coins such as this piece, with a provenance traceable back directly to the New Orleans Mint of 118 years ago, occurs seldom. Collectors should seize the moment.

Consignor Commentary: The Eliasberg coin, headlined as "An American Numismatic Treasure" in that catalog by David Bowers. I might not go quite that far, but it is certainly among the finest known. Cleanly struck with original golden toning.

Provenance: Acquired directly from the New Orleans Mint by J.M. Clapp (11/1897); John H. Clapp; Clapp Estate, to Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. (1942); Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection (Bowers and Merena, 4/1997), lot 1562. NGC ID# 23YB, PCGS# 5617

1897-S Quarter, MS67
Superb Registry Set Candidate



98563 1897-S MS67 NGC. CAC. This Superb Gem coin's CAC-endorsed quality begins with exceptionally smooth, satiny surfaces that yield mottled champagne and olive-gold toning, and ends with the sharp strike that shows unusually strong definition on the eagle's talons and the upper-right corner of the shield — the usual weak points. Some faint roller marks are discernible on the cheek with a glass, but are hardly noteworthy. Housed in a prior generation holder.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of only two MS67 at NGC with a single MS68 finer; the finest at PCGS is a single MS67. Two in this grade have the green CAC bean.

Heritage Commentary: With a low mintage of little more than half a million coins, the 1897-S ranks as a significant semikey date in all grades, and in Mint State is similar in rarity to the also-elusive 1897-O. Only a handful of Superb Gems are known to satisfy the demand from Registry Set enthusiasts.

Provenance: Craig M. Morgan, M.D. Collection (Bowers and Merena, 11/1998), lot 147. NGC ID# 23YC, PCGS# 5618

**1898 Quarter, Multihued MS66
Sharply Struck Type Candidate**



98564 1898 MS66 PCGS. Reddish-orange marginal hues progress to mint-green, ice-blue, and violet centers on the obverse. The reverse is lighter in tone with mottled slate-gray and jade-green patina amid patches of brilliance. Sharply struck design features and carefully preserved surfaces are unsurprising for a coin in this impressive grade.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 24 in MS66 (five MS66+) and seven finer, up to a single MS68. NGC shows 20 in MS66 and 10 finer, up to four MS68 (one MS68 ★).

Heritage Commentary: The Philadelphia Mint struck an impressive 11.1 million quarters in 1898, while the San Francisco and New Orleans branch mints each accomplished a production amounting to around 10% of the P-mint total. The 1898 claims the third-highest mintage in the Barber series after the 1899 and 1902, and examples are popularly sought-after for type purposes.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (2/2003). NGC ID# 23YD, PCGS# 5619

**1900-O Barber Quarter, MS67
In a Prior Generation Holder**



98565 1900-O MS67 NGC. CAC. Soft, satiny luster resides beneath concentric patina that shows warm orange-gold and amber hues in the centers, with deeper aqua-blue and rose-gray around the peripheries. The reverse arrow fletchings, as well as several obverse stars, show minor striking weakness, not unusual for this New Orleans product.

Population Data (9/15): There are only two MS67 at NGC (one MS67 ★) and a single MS68 finer; PCGS lists one each in MS67, MS67+, and MS68+.

Heritage Commentary: The 1900-O Barber quarter is seldom thought of as a significant semikey date, but its scarcity in Mint State is undeniable. Gem examples are seldom seen, and finer pieces are major rarities.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (11/1998). NGC ID# 23YL, PCGS# 5626

1901 Quarter, MS66
Ideal 20th Century Type Coin



98566 1901 MS66 PCGS. CAC. This boldly struck turn-of-the-century coin exhibits satiny cartwheel luster shining through blended olive and rose-gold toning, with an area of deeper ocean-blue along the upper-right reverse border. A few light grazes on Liberty's cheek are all that preclude an even finer grade.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS has seen 14 submissions in MS66 and two finer in MS67; the finest at NGC are five in this grade (one in MS66 ★).

Heritage Commentary: The 1901 Barber quarter is an available date in Mint State grades, at least in the context of a series wherein most issues become conditionally rare in Gem and finer condition. As the first issue of the 20th century, the 1901 is of obvious importance to type collectors.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (11/2001). NGC ID# 23YN, PCGS# 5628

1902 Quarter, MS66
One Finer at NGC



98567 1902 MS66 NGC. Radiant luster illuminates surfaces toned in pleasing golden-orange and lavender hues. The design elements show areas of incompleteness on each side, but the overall preservation and absence of singularly distracting imperfections make this Premium Gem an important condition rarity.

Population Data (9/15): NGC has only seen six MS66 representatives and one MS67 finer. PCGS counts 26 Premium Gem submissions with three in higher grades.

Heritage Commentary: The issue's mintage of 12.2 million coins — the second-highest production total in the series — understates its true rarity in this impressive grade. Middle dates in the Barber series were saved to a lesser extent than the early and late dates, explaining why so few 1902 representatives are certified in MS66 and above.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (8/2004). NGC ID# 23YS, PCGS# 5631

1902 Quarter Dollar, MS66
Seldom Seen Finer



98568 1902 MS66 PCGS. CAC. This highly lustrous, frosty Premium Gem's surfaces exhibit a hint of light golden color. A few light die cracks occur near the upper obverse and lower reverse borders, but those features in no way prevented this coin from receiving adequate striking pressure. Every last feature is crisply detailed, and the smooth surfaces show the high technical quality of the MS66 grade level.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS has seen 26 submissions in MS66 and with three finer; NGC reports six and one in comparable levels. Five in MS66 have the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: A date that is readily available in circulated grades, the 1902 Barber quarter is scarce at the present grade level and extremely rare any finer.

Provenance: *FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2001), lot 6961. NGC ID# 23YS, PCGS# 5631*

1902-O Quarter, Sharp MS66
Among the Finest Survivors



98569 1902-O MS66 NGC. This is about as sharp an O-mint Barber quarter as one may hope to find. On the obverse, the stars and headband are virtually complete. The reverse, including the mintmark, is equally bold throughout with a bit of softness confined to the olive branch, right talon, and arrow fletchings. A frosty, brilliant Premium Gem with light red-violet and russet patina around the edges. Two small milling marks on Liberty's neck are the only apparent blemishes on either side.

Population Data (9/15): Two Premium Gems and a single MS68 submission are the finest examples at NGC, while PCGS reports eight in MS66 and one MS67 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The survival of high-end New Orleans Barber quarters is typically low, and the 1902-O is no different. Despite a mintage nearing 5 million coins, only 100 pieces are estimated to survive across all Mint State grade levels. Roughly 30% of those are in Gem condition or better, and this is easily among the finest examples extant.

Provenance: *Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (11/1998). NGC ID# 23YT, PCGS# 5632*

1903 Quarter, Underrated MS66
Tied for Finest at Both Services
Sole Finest at CAC



98570 1903 MS66 PCGS. CAC. This strongly struck Premium Gem boasts surfaces as smooth as the day it left the Mint. Swirls of blue-green, violet, and champagne-gold iridescence mingle over each side of this original P-mint example.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports five Premium Gems (one in MS66+), while NGC shows four coins in the same grade. Neither firm has seen a finer representative. This is the sole finest CAC-approved example.

Heritage Commentary: David Lawrence (1994) writes: "Comes with a decent strike and nice luster. Like the dime and half of this date, it is very hard to find in AU55 and above. With some of the lowest price indexes in the series, this date is greatly undervalued in all mint state grades."

Consignor Commentary: Forget the 1896-S, the 1901-S, and the 1913-S, this issue may be the toughest to find in Gem in the set. PCGS and NGC combined have only graded nine coins in MS66 with none higher. The problem is compounded when hunting for beautifully toned Gems. In searching back through old catalogs I am struck by how many times the comment is made that this date is underrated. Many major collections are represented by MS65 examples (Hugon, Duckor), and I have seen no photos of MS66s whose toning might rival this piece. A gorgeous coin whose only flaw is a dark mark dropping across Liberty's jaw.

Provenance: Dale Krueger Collection / Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 6/2000), lot 7293; purchased from Joseph O'Connor (10/2002). NGC ID# 23YV, PCGS# 5634

1903-O Quarter, Vibrant Gem
A Standout Representative



98571 1903-O MS65 PCGS. This is an especially lustrous example with frosty surfaces, in contrast to the usually subdued finish seen on most O-mint coinage. Sea-green and pinkish-rose toning covers the obverse, while the reverse exhibits partial brilliance beneath a layer of light golden and violet patina. A lovely, well-struck example of this scarce issue.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS enumerates 13 MS65 submissions with seven finer, while NGC shows six Gems and a single MS66 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1903-O is an underrated New Orleans issue in the Barber quarter series. Although the mintage of 3.5 million pieces may seem unremarkable, this conditionally rare Gem survivor definitively stands out among its peers. Rated by David Lawrence as R.6 in MS64 and higher.

Provenance: Atlanta Signature (Heritage, 8/2001), lot 5965; Baltimore Signature (Heritage, 7/2003), lot 7005. NGC ID# 23YW, PCGS# 5635

1903-S Quarter, MS66
Blue and Gold Tones, Ex: Friend



98572 1903-S MS66 PCGS. Ex: Friend. Dusky blue and gold shades blanket this impeccably preserved, luminous S-mint Premium Gem quarter. Each side displays well-struck devices with faint incompleteness restricted to Liberty's forecurl and the lower leg feathers of the eagle. The Dale Friend and Gene Gardner pedigrees denote the quality and eye appeal of this Premium Gem.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of nine Premium Gems at PCGS with three additional grading events in MS67. There are only two in MS66 at NGC and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: The California facility managed a production of 1 million Barber quarters in 1903. *The Complete Guide to Barber Quarters* (1994) comments that the issue "Comes very nice — a combination of great luster and 'freshness,' along with a good strike make mint state examples some of the nicest coins in the series."

Provenance: Purchased from Rare Coins of New Hampshire (11/2006). NGC ID# 23YX, PCGS# 5636

1903-S Quarter, MS66
Seemingly Unmarked



98573 1903-S MS66 PCGS. This fresh San Francisco Premium Gem exhibits sharp strike definition. Only the lower feathers and right talon are trivially incomplete, while the stars, headband, hair, and wing feathers are crisply rendered. Nearly brilliant surfaces abound with frosty mint luster and display a faint trace of gold toning toward the rims. Each side appears unmarked to the naked eye.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports nine in MS66. NGC shows two submissions in the same grade. There are only three in MS67 finer between the two services, all in PCGS holders.

Heritage Commentary: CoinFacts estimates that of the 1 million quarters struck at San Francisco in 1903, perhaps 175 coins survive in Uncirculated condition. The website's approximation drops to just 50 pieces at the Gem grade level or better. With no more than 14 examples certified in Premium Gem or higher at PCGS and NGC combined, Registry Set specialists should capitalize on this opportunity.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (4/2002). NGC ID# 23YX, PCGS# 5636

1904 Barber Quarter, MS66
Top-Grade Example at CAC



98574 1904 MS66 PCGS. CAC. The obverse of this beautiful Premium Gem shows pleasing violet interiors with blue-green toning at the rims. Similar colors adorn the upper reverse, while the remaining surfaces display delicate lavender patina. A strong strike and minimal marks round out the appeal.

Population Data (9/15): There are only 10 in MS66 at PCGS with four comparable examples at NGC, and one MS67 finer at each service. Two Premium Gems, including this coin, are tied for finest at CAC.

Heritage Commentary: The 1904 *Annual Mint Director's Report* discussed the need for additional subsidiary silver coinage:

"With the growth of population and business in the country, its needs in this respect inevitably increase and are imperative ... The activity of retail trade affects the demand from year to year, but there is a constant absorption, and the Treasury should be authorized and prepared to supply the country's wants."

Accordingly, more than 9.5 million quarters were struck at the Mint in 1904. Hundreds were saved in Uncirculated condition, but Premium Gems show up rarely in today's market.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (10/2002). NGC ID# 23YY, PCGS# 5637

1904-O Quarter, MS67
None Certified Finer



98575 1904-O MS67 PCGS. Deeply and original toned, the surfaces display lavender-gray patina with cobalt-blue shades intermingled over the right reverse. The preservation is extraordinary with both sides free of even the most trivial abrasion. The frosty luster provides a shimmering, cartwheel sheen, and the strike is well above-average for an O-mint issue.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports three submissions in MS67 (one in MS67+). NGC lists a single Superb Gem. The four coins are the finest certified examples of the date.

Heritage Commentary: The New Orleans Mint delivered 2.4 million quarters in 1904, a total consistent with most of the other O-mint deliveries in the Barber quarter series. Since few Southerners in the early 20th century deliberately preserved the products of the branch mint in Louisiana, the rarity of the issue in high grades is such that only the most fortunate collectors will have the opportunity to acquire any Mint State representative, let alone one of the finest certified examples.

When we first handled this piece in 2001, the consignor provided us with substantial pedigree information. Since we are unable to verify the information, it is included only for the benefit of interested bidders. The first sale of this coin was supposedly conducted by the Gutttag Brothers in the 1920s, after which it appeared in Marty Haber's Emory Nichols Sale and an unknown Christie's sale in either 1988 or 1989.

Provenance: Glenn J. Church Collection / FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2001), lot 6968. NGC ID# 23YZ, PCGS# 5638

1905 Quarter, Premium Gem
Likely Among the Finest Available



98576 1905 MS66 PCGS. This impeccable Barber quarter offers jade-green in the recesses with pearl-gray and slate-blue patina overall. Highly lustrous and carefully preserved, each side features well-struck devices without a mark worthy of mention.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS and NGC have seen 15 and six MS66 submissions, respectively. Each firm reports a single finer example in MS68, likely a single coin crossed over at some point.

Heritage Commentary: Type collectors will appreciate this lovely 1905 quarter. The issue is readily accessible through MS64, and even Gems can be found with limited searching. Only in this high grade do examples prove challenging. With probably just one MS68 finer between PCGS and NGC (our records show no MS68 has appeared at public auction in the past 22 years), this is realistically the highest grade most specialists hope to acquire.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (3/2007). NGC ID# 23Z2, PCGS# 5639

1905 Quarter, MS66
Virtually Unobtainable Finer



98577 1905 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Honey-gold color dominates the reverse, while the obverse has a gunmetal-gray center and forest-green peripheries. Glowing luster enlivens immaculately preserved surfaces that show needle-sharp devices. The portrait is unabraded aside from faint marks above the ear.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 15 Premium Gems and one MS68 finer. NGC lists six MS66 submissions and also one MS68 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Barber quarter mintages dropped under 5 million coins at the Philadelphia Mint in 1905. The supply of silver bullion was running low, and the “only silver bullion purchases now being made are the unimportant amounts contained in gold bullion,” per the 1905 *Mint Director's Report*.

Provenance: Dallas Signature (*Heritage*, 10/2008), lot 697; Central States Signature (*Heritage*, 4/2009), lot 476; purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (4/2009). NGC ID# 23Z2, PCGS# 5639

1905 Quarter, Brilliant MS66
Blazing Mint Frost



98578 1905 MS66 NGC. CAC. Ex: Richmond Collection. Blazing mint frost rolls over barely toned surfaces devoid of all but two barely perceptible reeding marks on Liberty's upper cheek. Most stars and the laurel wreath are well-defined, though the forecurls exhibit slight blending. The reverse is equally sharp on the neck and wing feathers.

Population Data (9/15): The NGC Census shows six submissions in MS66 with one MS68 finer. PCGS also reports one MS68, supported by 15 Premium Gems.

Heritage Commentary: Our consignor wrote in his commentary regarding another MS66 1905 quarter that he had "gone through a half-dozen" examples before settling on the one that eventually sold as lot 98418 in Part II of his collection in October 2014. Gene Gardner had a strong preference for toned coins, but collectors searching for a thickly frosted, almost-brilliant example should have no problem fitting this amazing Premium Gem into their sets.

Provenance: Richmond Collection, Part III (David Lawrence Rare Coins, 3/2005), lot 1601. NGC ID# 23Z2, PCGS# 5639

1905-O Quarter, MS67
Ex: Clapp-Eliasberg, Finest Certified
Direct Purchase From the New Orleans Mint



98579 1905-O MS67 NGC. Ex: Eliasberg. Described in the Eliasberg catalog as: "Heather and light golden toning over lustrous, satiny surfaces ... an outstanding gem specimen that is worthy of special note by the interested bidder." Each side displays incompleteness of strike on the high points — a hallmark of the Louisiana facility. The overall preservation is unsurpassed.

Population Data (9/15): This is the sole finest example at NGC. PCGS also shows a single MS67 submission and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: This Superb Gem traces its origin directly back to the New Orleans Mint 110 years ago, a claim only a handful of coins can rightly make. In addition to its historical significance, Registry specialists will also recognize its importance as one of the two finest survivors of this scarcely saved issue. A fabulous representative of what David Lawrence called a "magic" date.

Provenance: Purchased directly from the New Orleans Mint by John M. Clapp (11/1905); John H. Clapp; Clapp Estate; Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. via Stack's (1942); Eliasberg Collection (Bowers and Merena, 4/1997), lot 1585; unknown intermediaries; purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (10/1999). NGC ID# 23Z3, PCGS# 5640

1906 Quarter, MS66
Original, Unmarked Surfaces



98580 1906 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Glistening mint luster combines with a thin layer of violet patina and splashes of olive iridescence. The obverse is a shade deeper in tone than the nearly brilliant reverse. Stars 11 to 13 lack full centers, but the portrait is well-defined. A touch of high-point incompleteness occurs over the eagle. A virtually pristine representative.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS counts 24 in MS66 (one in MS66+) and two finer, while NGC shows just four Premium Gem submissions and three finer.

Heritage Commentary: Quarter dollar production dwindled to 3.6 million coins on the East Coast in 1906, continuing a four-year downward trend. The issue is accessible through Gem condition and becomes rare at the Premium Gem level.

Provenance: *Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (10/2003).* NGC ID# 23Z5, PCGS# 5642

1906-D Quarter, MS67
Top-Graded First-Year Denver Coin



98581 1906-D MS67 PCGS. This frosty Superb Gem exhibits an extremely appealing toning scheme. Rich golden-russet and jade-green iridescence blankets the obverse with the reverse somewhat lighter in tone. The devices are incredibly well-defined for a branch mint issue, and the surfaces are typically clean for the grade. A small milling mark appears on Liberty's neck under close examination and can be used for future identification purposes.

Population Data (9/15): This MS67 coin is tied with two others for finest at PCGS. The top-graded coin at NGC is a single Premium Gem.

Heritage Commentary: An important issue, the 1906-D is the first quarter struck at the Denver Mint. Few pieces of exceptional quality have survived and, indeed, this Superb Gem easily qualifies for Condition Census status. Gene Gardner's set, arguably the finest collection of Barber quarters ever assembled, included another MS67 representative — the Eliasberg coin — that recently sold during the third installment of the Gardner Collection (Heritage, 5/2015), lot 98412.

Provenance: *Palm Beach Signature (Heritage, 11/2004), lot 6556.* NGC ID# 23Z6, PCGS# 5643

1906-O Quarter, Appealing MS66
The Eliasberg Coin



98582 1906-O MS66 PCGS. CAC. Ex: Eliasberg. Fulsome mint luster radiates through the dappled lavender-gray and orange toning scheme. As usually encountered on coins from the Southern branch mint, strike definition is problematic on Liberty's laurel wreath and the eagle's leg feathers. The star and wing feather detail, however, is well above-average, and so is the eye appeal. Housed in a green label holder.

Population Data (9/15): One of 23 Premium Gems at PCGS (two in MS66+) with seven MS67 (one MS67+) finer. NGC reports 11 coins in MS66 and five finer submissions, up to one MS68.

Heritage Commentary: Produced three years before the eclipse of the New Orleans Mint as a coining facility, the 1906-O Barber quarter is among the more available O-mint issues in the series. However, that is only true of low-grade pieces, and a no-questions Premium Gem is still in the province of the advanced specialist. A desirable example of a coin with two of the most coveted pedigrees in numismatics.

Provenance: Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, Part II (*Bowers and Merena*, 4/1997), lot 1589; *Philadelphia Signature* (*Heritage*, 8/2000), lot 5850; purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (11/2001). NGC ID# 23Z7, PCGS# 5644

1906-O Quarter, MS67
Tied for Finest at PCGS



98583 1906-O MS67 PCGS. CAC. A lovely coin, the central obverse is mostly untuned with olive and orange-gold peripheral shadings. More uniform in appearance, the reverse is awash in champagne-gray patina with blushes of powder-blue in select areas at the denticles. The nearly complete strike is noteworthy for this often poorly produced issue, and the radiant surfaces are essentially abrasion-free.

Population Data (9/15): The finest at PCGS are seven in MS67 (one MS67+). NGC reports four grading events in MS67 (one MS67 ★) with a single MS68 finer. This is among four in MS67 with the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1906-O is not the rarest O-mint Barber quarter in Mint State; David Lawrence (1994) suggests there may have been a small hoard. However, Superb Gems are rare, and specialists should consider the sole MS68 tightly held and likely out of reach.

Consignor Commentary: Technically close to perfect with good eye appeal. The strike is strong, and the surfaces are line- and mark-free. Vibrant luster combines with attractive, delicate toning throughout. Not a rare date and easily obtained even in Gem. Still, I would venture to say that this has to be a Condition Census piece.

Provenance: ANA National Money Signature (*Heritage*, 3/2003), lot 5731. NGC ID# 23Z7, PCGS# 5644

1907 Quarter, MS66
Minimally Marked, Frosty Surfaces



98584 1907 MS66 PCGS. Wisps of delicate golden-olive and lavender toning tint largely brilliant and thickly frosted surfaces. Only stars 3 and 11 are somewhat incomplete, while the headband and hair definition is strong. On the reverse, the shield lines, talons, and fletchings are moderately indistinct, but the wing and leg feathers are well-detailed. Evidence of postproduction contact is restricted to microscopic flecks on the portrait.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 17 submissions in MS66 and three MS67 finer. NGC shows 13 in MS66 (five MS66 ★), two in MS67, and a lone MS68.

Heritage Commentary: Gene Gardner's goal was deceptively simple when assembling this remarkable set: put together the finest possible collection of Barber quarters. While his set contains two higher-graded 1907 coins, this beautiful Registry-quality example certainly takes its rightful place among them.

Provenance: *Purchased from Legend Numismatics (2/2007).* NGC ID# 23Z8, PCGS# 5645

1907 Quarter, Brilliant MS66
Extremely Rare Finer



98585 1907 MS66 PCGS. CAC. A razor-sharp portrait, full star centers, and strong shield and feather detail define this all-brilliant, thickly frosted Premium Gem Barber quarter. The radiant surfaces display a few grade-limiting marks, but they are mostly only visible under magnification. The CAC endorsement affirms the eye appeal, though the aesthetic quality is immediately apparent even without the approval sticker.

Population Data (9/15): There are 17 MS66 coins at PCGS (one in MS66+) with three MS67 submissions finer. NGC has seen 13 Premium Gems (five with a Star), two in MS67, and a single MS68 submission.

Heritage Commentary: The availability of the 1907, and this coin's sharp strike and pleasingly frosted surfaces, make it a great type candidate.

Provenance: *Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2004).* NGC ID# 23Z8, PCGS# 5645

1907 Barber Quarter, MS67
Among the Best-Preserved Survivors



98586 1907 MS67 PCGS. The mint luster is thick, frosted, and undiminished through the golden-brown centers, and rose, aquamarine, and lime-green borders. Design definition is exceptionally strong on both sides, and marks are limited to hair-thin contact on the portrait.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows three in MS67 atop the *Population Report* with none finer. Superb Gems at NGC include two MS67 submissions and a single MS68.

Heritage Commentary: A collectible date through most grades, the 1907 becomes conditionally rare at the Premium Gem level. Finer examples are extremely rare. There are only five in MS67 recorded at the two leading services combined, despite a mintage in excess of 7 million coins. Undeniably among the best-preserved, most eye-appealing survivors.

Provenance: ANA Signature (*Heritage*, 8/2010), lot 4784; Chicago Signature (*Heritage*, 8/2011), lot 3822. NGC ID# 23Z8, PCGS# 5645

1907-O Quarter, Gorgeous MS67
Among the Finest at PCGS



98587 1907-O MS67 PCGS. CAC. Spectacularly toned in intermingled shades of electric-blue, violet, slate-gray, and reddish-orange, this simply gorgeous Registry Superb Gem is of equally high technical quality. The surfaces are smooth and pristine with luminous, softly frosted luster. The typical New Orleans strike seen here shows a touch of softness on the headband, shield, feathers, and fletchings, but does not diminish the appeal. Only star 11 lacks clearly delineated radials.

Population Data (9/15): This coin is among the five finest submissions at PCGS. NGC shows one MS67 example with a single MS68 coin finer (the Eliasberg-Gardner coin).

Heritage Commentary: Strike quality was of little importance for this New Orleans issue, generally regarded as one of the worst-made dates in the series. Despite the few areas of localized incompleteness, the stunning eye appeal and preservation more than compensate. A seldom-offered opportunity.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (10/1999). NGC ID# 23ZA, PCGS# 5647

1907-S Quarter, MS66
Extremely Rare in Finer Grades



98588 1907-S MS66 PCGS. CAC. Mottled blue and lavender shades intermingle over both sides with splashes of golden-tan hues and radiant, softly frosted luster throughout. The stars are fully struck aside from stars 2 and 3, and Liberty's portrait details well-defined. Moderate incompleteness occurs over the reverse shield and the lower portion of the eagle. The green CAC sticker affirms the high all-around quality of this Premium Gem. Housed in an old green label holder.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows seven Premium Gems, while NGC lists five similarly graded examples. There are three finer PCGS coins (including one MS68) and a single MS67 finer at NGC.

Heritage Commentary: Considerably fewer quarters were struck at the San Francisco than at Philadelphia, Denver, or New Orleans in 1907, and all but a small fraction of the 1.3 million examples produced have been lost through attrition. The second edition of David Lawrence's *Complete Guide to Barber Quarters* rates this S-mint issue R.5 in Uncirculated condition.

Provenance: Craig M. Morgan, M.D. Collection (Bowers and Merena, 11/1998), lot 151. NGC ID# 23ZB, PCGS# 5648

1908-D Quarter, MS66
Razor-Sharp Throughout



98589 1908-D MS66 PCGS. CAC. Awash in glistening mint luster, each side of this CAC-approved Premium Gem exhibits the slightest hint of golden color over otherwise brilliant surfaces. The impression is razor-sharp throughout, and even the fletchings show strong detail. The stars are fully rendered. A small reeding mark on the left side of the reverse shield acts solely as a pedigree marker and does not distract. Another small linear depression is well-hidden in the headband leaves above LIBERTY.

Population Data (9/15): There are 13 Premium Gems at PCGS and three finer. NGC reports four in MS66 and five finer. Six in this grade boast the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: Denver Mint quarter production reached nearly 5.8 million coins in 1908, two years after the facility opened. The issue is readily collectible through MS64 but becomes very scarce in Gem condition. Premium Gems such as this are quite rare.

Provenance: Purchased from RARCOA (3/2001). NGC ID# 23ZD, PCGS# 5650

1908-S Quarter, MS67
Underrated Rarity in High Grades



98590 1908-S MS67 NGC. Variegate slate-blue, violet-gray, and olive toning adorns each side of this Superb Gem — an extreme rarity in this condition. The peripheries are strongly struck, though the centers display incompleteness on Liberty's headband and the eagle's shield and leg feathers. Frosted luster radiates softly through the patina, illuminating virtually flawless surfaces.

Population Data (9/15): This Superb Gem is tied for finest with one other submission at NGC. PCGS lists two in MS67 and one MS68 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1908-S has the 10th-lowest mintage in the Barber quarter series with a production of just 784,000 coins. David Akers described this as a “very scarce issue in all mint state grades and a rare one in Gem condition. In fact, one would be considerably more likely to be able to locate a Gem 1913-S Quarter than another 1908-S” of comparable quality. Notice that NGC and PCGS show similar or even lower certification totals for the 1908-S compared to the key-date 1913-S in MS65 or better.

Provenance: Purchased from Bill Nagle (1/2001). NGC ID# 23ZE, PCGS# 5652

1909 Quarter, Mostly Brilliant MS66
Peripheral Gold-Russet Toning



98591 1909 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Mottled golden-russet toning around the peripheries is most prominent on the lower right obverse. The innermost areas are frosty and gray-brilliant, devoid of any marks worthy of individual mention. A well-struck Premium Gem of nearly unimprovable technical and visual quality.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 19 submitted in MS66 (two in MS66+) and three finer, while NGC counts 11 in MS66 and two finer. CAC shows five in MS66 with its green approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: Gene Gardner notes in his commentary that this coin lacks “zing,” but we are inclined to disagree. Those who appreciate original, unaltered surfaces will find much to admire about this lovely Premium Gem.

Consignor Commentary: There are five in MS67 out there ranked ahead of 30 in MS66, of which this is one. Nicely toned in russet on the obverse and gold on the reverse. Reasonably struck and unmarked.

Provenance: Purchase from John Feigenbaum at David Lawrence Rare Coins (5/2004). NGC ID# 23ZG, PCGS# 5653

1909-D Quarter, MS65
Green Label Holder



98592 1909-D MS65 PCGS. CAC. This Gem 1909-D Barber quarter shows notably vibrant, satiny luster with a blush of light golden toning overall. A single faint graze on Liberty's cheek appears to be all that precludes an even finer grades from PCGS. The eagle's right (facing) talons and the clutched arrow fletchings are weakly struck, as usual, but the remaining design elements are pleasingly defined.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 41 submissions in MS65 (one in MS65+) and 22 finer. The populations in comparable grades at NGC are much smaller, so that this is among only eight in this grade with the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: Mintage has little to do with availability in regards to high-grade Barber quarters, as most series issues are elusive in Gem or finer condition. The 1909-D is no exception; more than 5 million pieces were coined, but examples grading finer than the present coin are notably rare.

Provenance: Glenn J. Church Collection / FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2001), lot 6984. NGC ID# 43NY, PCGS# 5654

1910-D Quarter, MS67
Tied With One Other for Finest



98593 1910-D MS67 PCGS. Ex: Eliasberg. Lavender-gray iridescence dominates the outward appearance of both sides of this Superb Gem, while pale orange, gold, and powder-blue shades are evident in the recesses. The reverse is uncommonly sharp, and the obverse shows only trivial weakness on the lower-right stars. No distractions are observed with a glass. Housed in a green label holder.

Population Data (9/15): This exceptional coin ranks with one other as the finest at PCGS, a status it has held for more than a decade; NGC has not seen none finer than MS66 ★.

Heritage Commentary: As might be inferred from its limited mintage of 1.5 million coins, the 1910-D Barber quarter is conditionally challenging in the finest Mint State grades and is decidedly rare above the Gem level.

Consignor Commentary: Another coin from the Eliasberg Collection. The coin is deeply toned with almost perfect surfaces. One small spot is seen behind Liberty's head, but the coin is otherwise unblemished.

Provenance: Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection (Bowers & Merena, 4/1997), lot 1603; Philadelphia Signature (Heritage, 8/2000), lot 5854. NGC ID# 23ZM, PCGS# 5658

1911 Quarter, MS66
Charming Mint Luster



98594 1911 MS66 PCGS. The fully lustrous surfaces of this Premium Gem exhibit sharp definition and a couple of tiny abrasions on the obverse. A moderate amount of mottled gray patina also shows on that side, while the reverse is brilliant. Gem quality throughout.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS lists 15 submissions in MS66 (one MS66+) and none finer. NGC has seen seven in MS66 (one MS66+) and two Superb Gems finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1911 is an available date in the absolute sense, and as a result is often overlooked in high grades, where it becomes conditionally rare at the Premium Gem level.

Consignor Commentary: One of 15 examples graded MS66 at PCGS with one MS66+ higher, slightly scarcer than I would have thought for this common date. The thing that intrigues me about this coin is the second R in QUARTER on the reverse; it looks to me to be slightly diminutive and positioned a trifle high, possibly recut. Two light die cracks show on the reverse. One connects the bases of RTE in QUARTER; the other links the tops of RI in AMERICA.

Provenance: *Baltimore Signature* (Heritage, 7/2003), lot 7012; purchased from Wayne Herndon (11/2004). NGC ID# 23ZN, PCGS# 5659

1912 Barber Quarter, MS66
Seldom Seen in Finer Grades



98595 1912 MS66 PCGS. This Premium Gem is well-struck on the upper-right corner of the shield, the eagle's talons, and the obverse stars, and exhibits notable satiny luster with a tinge of amber-brown toning along the right obverse border. A couple of light surface grazes in the right obverse field limit an even finer grade.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 28 submissions in MS66 (two in MS66+) and two MS67 finer. NGC's census shows six in MS66 and also two MS67 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1912 Barber quarter is a challenging date to locate with pleasing eye appeal, particularly in high Mint State grades where the certified populations thin considerably.

Consignor Commentary: This was my fourth try to find a nice example of this date. The current entry has a little bit of color; yet, for a date this available, there might be a more deeply toned example somewhere. This coin shows no wear but there are two small marks in the right obverse field, one below Liberty's chin, the other between stars 10 and 11.

Provenance: *Purchased privately from Heritage* (12/2002). NGC ID# 23ZS, PCGS# 5662

1912 Quarter, MS66
Natural, Satiny Surfaces



98596 1912 MS66 PCGS. CAC. This is a delightfully well-preserved, satiny Premium Gem example of this available Philadelphia issue, showing soft champagne toning that complements hints of deeper olive and russet in the peripheral recesses. The fletchings and some of the obverse stars lack detail, but the central design elements are well brought up.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 28 in MS66 (two MS66+) and two MS67 finer. NGC data show six in MS66 and also two MS67 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1912 Barber quarter is one of the more often seen issues in high grade, as it should be with a mintage exceeding 4.4 million pieces. Still, Premium Gem examples are scarce, and finer coins are prohibitively rare for most collectors.

Provenance: *Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (11/2004).* NGC ID# 23ZS, PCGS# 5662

1913 Quarter, MS65
Lightly Toned, Glowing Surfaces
Elusive in Finer Grades



98597 1913 MS65 PCGS. CAC. This exquisite Gem displays cinnamon-brown, olive-gray, and sea-green toning, along with full, frosty luster that delivers a shimmering effect when turned in-hand. The design elements are boldly struck, and the surfaces show only a handful of tiny contact marks, all on the obverse.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 34 grading events in MS65 (two in MS65+) and nine finer. NGC shows 14 in MS65 (two in MS65+) and three finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1913-P is a long-recognized condition rarity among circulation-issue Barber quarters, worth considerably more than a common date, even in lightly circulated condition. Although Gem examples are not prohibitively scarce, demand for them is heightened by the rarity of finer representatives.

Provenance: *Pittsburgh Signature (Heritage, 8/2004), lot 4098.* NGC ID# 23ZU, PCGS# 5664

1913-D Quarter, MS66
Mellow, Satiny Luster



98598 1913-D MS66 PCGS. Soft, natural luster illuminates pastel shades of ice-blue and champagne toning over each side of this Premium Gem, while hints of deeper olive and russet appear in the peripheral recesses. Trivial weakness on the eagle's right (facing) talons and the fletchings is the only mentionable strike deficiency.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 12 in MS66 and two MS67 finer. NGC shows nine and two in comparable grade levels.

Heritage Commentary: Branch mint issues from this period are notably challenging in the finer Mint State grades, and the 1913-D is no exception. The typical representative is in MS64 or lower condition; Premium Gem examples are genuinely rare.

Provenance: *Internet Auction (Heritage, 10/2001), lot 2230. NGC ID# 23ZV, PCGS# 5665*

1913-D Quarter, MS67
Tied for Finest Known, Ex: Eliasberg



98599 1913-D MS67 NGC. Ex: Eliasberg. Both sides display unimpaired, satiny luster with noticeable brightness in the fields. The surfaces are free of post-production contact. The otherwise light, silver-gray patina yields to mottled golden-tan shades over the reverse. Some typical strike weakness appears on the eagle's right (facing) talons.

Population Data (9/15): The Eliasberg coin is tied with one other as the finest at NGC; the finest at PCGS are also two coins in MS67.

Heritage Commentary: Despite a mintage of more than 1.4 million coins, the 1913-D quarter is seldom available in Gem or finer condition and is extremely rare at the Superb Gem level.

Consignor Commentary: The Eliasberg coin, lightly toned and original. The Eliasberg catalog notes that this is an unusually plain coin, devoid of spots and die cracks, and attributes this to the coin being an early strike. The catalog also notes the coin is definitely Condition Census, a claim that still holds as it is one of four in MS67 tied at the top of the certified population charts.

Provenance: *Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection (Bowers & Merena, 4/1997), lot 1610; Philadelphia Signature (Heritage, 8/2000), lot 5859; purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (11/2001). NGC ID# 23ZV, PCGS# 5665*

1914 Barber Quarter, MS66
Delicate Toning



98600 1914 MS66 NGC. The satiny surfaces of this high-end type coin are notably well-preserved, with mellow ice-blue luster yielding to the deeper amber-gold and champagne hues around the borders. The upper-right corner of the shield and several obverse stars show some of the usual strike weakness.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports eight Premium Gems and PCGS 23 in MS66, and two in MS67 are finer at each service.

Heritage Commentary: The 1914 Barber quarter is a favorite issue among type collectors. Mint State examples are readily available through the Gem grade level, and only in MS66 does the date become conditionally challenging. This example will reward the collector seeking exceptional technical quality.

Provenance: *Baltimore Auction (Bowers and Merena, 7/2004), lot 545. NGC ID# 23ZX, PCGS# 5667*

1914 Quarter, Compelling MS66
Frosty and Lightly Toned



98601 1914 MS66 PCGS. The slightest tinge of lilac-gold color graces the obverse. Bright silvery surfaces on the reverse similarly show a burst of golden-amber patina across the right-hand periphery. Scintillating luster rolls over each side, and typical incompleteness is limited to the headband, stars 7 and 11, the shield lines, and talons. The surfaces are sharply defined elsewhere and free of detectable abrasions, save for a few minute ticks on Liberty's cap.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS and NGC report, respectively 24 and eight submissions in MS66, with two and one finer, all MS67.

Heritage Commentary: David Lawrence's *Complete Guide to Barber Quarters* (1994) notes that the 1914 "comes with nice luster, but not well struck." We counter that "nice" is an understatement with respect to this radiant Premium Gem, and the strike is decidedly above-average. Finer examples are extremely rare and tightly held. The MS67 NGC coin Gene Gardner writes of below brought \$4,113 as lot 98428 in our Gardner Part II Signature (Heritage, 10/2014).

Consignor Commentary: This is a beauty with wonderful luster and a fringe of golden-brown toning. I actually own the NGC coin graded MS67, and while it is marginally better technically, it does not have the eye appeal of this coin.

Provenance: *Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (3/2007). NGC ID# 23ZX, PCGS# 5667*

1914 Quarter, MS66
Ideal for Type



98602 1914 MS66 PCGS. CAC. This well-struck Premium Gem displays satiny luster underlying soft lavender-gray and champagne toning, while deeper splashes of olive-gold and amber further accent each side. A few tiny marks on Liberty's cheek are all that preclude an even finer numeric grade.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS lists 23 submissions in MS66 and two MS67 finer. NGC reports eight and one in those grades.

Heritage Commentary: Premium Gem representatives of this otherwise available Philadelphia issue are only infrequently offered at auction; finer pieces are almost unobtainable. The budget-conscious enthusiast will find this outstanding coin a worthy choice over a much more expensive and rarely seen candidate that is one grade point finer.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (3/2007). NGC ID# 23ZX, PCGS# 5667

1914-D Quarter, MS67
Tied for Finest, Ex: Eliasberg



98603 1914-D MS67 PCGS. Ex: Eliasberg. Radiant mint luster is only the most outstanding feature of this beautiful D-mint Superb Gem. Closer inspection reveals surfaces as smooth as the day this quarter left the coining press. Both sides have since acquired a warm blanket of steel-lilac iridescence with freckles of orange coloration sprinkled over the obverse.

Population Data (9/15): The Eliasberg coin is tied with two others as the finest at PCGS and one in the same grade at NGC.

Heritage Commentary: Every issue in the Barber quarter series is conditionally rare at the Superb Gem grade level, but many are still available in lower grades. Despite a mintage of more than 3 million coins, the 1914-D quarter seldom appears above the Gem level.

Provenance: Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection (Bowers & Merena, 4/1997), lot 1613; Philadelphia Signature (Heritage, 8/2000), lot 5861. NGC ID# 23ZY, PCGS# 5668

1916 Barber Quarter, Glowing MS67
Tied for Finest Known



98604 1916 MS67 NGC. The dazzling luster on this Superb Gem final-year Barber quarter type coin captivates the eye, while the well-defined motifs and stellar surface preservation complete the visual appeal. The reverse is heavily frosted, while the obverse shows faint parallel die striations in the fields that aid in the spectacular surface glow. A blush of light golden toning graces each side.

Population Data (9/15): NGC and PCGS report four and two submissions in MS67, respectively, but none are finer at either service.

Heritage Commentary: The year 1916 rang down the curtain on the Barber design, but since the Standing Liberty quarter type was not put into production until December, more than 1.7 million examples of the Barber design were coined, making the issue ideal as a final-year type representative.

Provenance: *Purchased privately from Heritage (6/2001).* NGC ID# 2425, PCGS# 5673

1916-D Quarter, MS66
Eye-Appealing Type Coin



98605 1916-D MS66 NGC. CAC. This is an especially lustrous, well-preserved example of this available final-year Denver issue, showing intermingled shades of forest-green, olive, champagne, russet, and amber-red present throughout the fields. The eagle's right (facing) talons and the fletchings show the only mentionable strike deficiency.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 13 submissions finer — 11 in MS67 (including Plus- and Star-designated coins) and two in MS68. PCGS shows 15 submitted in MS67 but none finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1916-D is the ideal type coin in the Barber quarter series, struck to the extent of more than 6.5 million pieces. The large production was a result of the Treasury submitting an order for some 4 million quarter dollars near the end of 1916. The Denver Mint was directed to cease coinage of all other unnecessary denominations and focus on quarter production for the remainder of the year to help meet the demand. The order of 4 million coins, however, seems to have been excessive for the actual needs of commerce, as many Uncirculated examples of this date survive for modern-day collectors.

Provenance: *Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (7/2002).* NGC ID# 2426, PCGS# 5674

PROOF BARBER QUARTERS

1897 Quarter, Beautiful PR68
Ex: Clapp-Eliasberg



98606 1897 PR68 NGC. Ex: Eliasberg. An outstanding Superb Gem proof with tack-sharp detail throughout the relief elements and deep, glassy fields that provide modest cameo contrast on the obverse. The central regions show warm champagne-gold toning that deepens to amber, blue, and mint-green around the peripheries.

Population Data (9/15): The Eliasberg coin is one of only six PR68 coins at NGC (one PR68+ ★) with none finer; PCGS shows two in this grade and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: This impressive coin boasts not only stellar preservation and eye appeal, but also an impressive pedigree of high-profile collections that can be traced all the way back to when the coin was purchased from the Mint by the elder John Clapp in late 1897. Since its striking, this magnificent proof has resided in only three different collections, with the sole exception of a brief three-year gap between the sale of the Eliasberg Collection in 1997, and when Eugene H. Gardner acquired it from the August 2000 Bowers and Merena sale.

Provenance: Acquired directly from the Mint by J.M. Clapp (11/1897); John H. Clapp; Clapp Estate, to Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. (1942); Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection (Bowers and Merena, 4/1997), lot 1561; ANA Sale of the Millennium (Bowers and Merena, 8/2000), lot 1323. NGC ID# 242C, PCGS# 5683

1898 Quarter, Toned PR66
Ample Mirroring in the Fields



98607 1898 PR66 PCGS. CAC. Superb, deeply reflective fields are wonderfully toned to a soft pink or rose, with the lower portion of the reverse having toned further to an electric indigo. This distinctive toning is evenly distributed over all surfaces. The strike is bold and there are no disruptive contact marks.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 21 in PR66 with 23 submissions finer. NGC data account for 33 coins in this grade and 39 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Suitable for type purposes, the proof 1898 Barber quarter is usually available. However, finding a high-grade example with attractive toning can be a challenge, with or without cameo contrast.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 10/2001), lot 6375; Santa Clara Bullet (Heritage, 12/2002), lot 832; purchased privately from Heritage (1/2003). NGC ID# 242D, PCGS# 5684

1898 Quarter, PR68 Cameo
Exceptional Quality and Eye Appeal



98608 1898 PR68 Cameo NGC. This exceptional PR68 Cameo quarter shows soft champagne and pale lavender centers, deepening to indigo, ocean-blue, mint-green, and orange-gold around the peripheries. The strike is full, and the design elements exhibit ample contrast, even through the delicate patina.

Population Data (9/15): NGC lists nine in PR68 Cameo (one PR68 ★ Cameo) and two finer. PCGS reports two in PR68 Cameo and also two finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1898 quarter is a significant condition rarity at the PR68 grade level, with or without cameo contrast, but Cameo and Ultra Cameo representatives have always held much higher esteem among collectors than have their less-contrasted counterparts.

Provenance: *Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (7/2000).* NGC ID# 242D, PCGS# 85684

1901 Quarter, PR67
Subtle Field-Motif Contrast



98609 1901 PR67 NGC. CAC. This high-end Superb Gem proof type coin shows heavy mint frost of the relief elements contrasting against deep, watery mirroring in the fields. The coin might have qualified for a Cameo designation were it not for a blanket of warm amber-gold toning that accents much of each side. The eagle's right (facing) talons are a trifle soft, but the strike is otherwise bold.

Population Data (9/15): NGC records 27 submissions in PR67 (one PR67+) with seven finer. PCGS reports eight in PR67 (one PR67+) and two finer. This is among five in this grade with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1901 has the distinction of being the first proof Barber quarter issue of the 20th century, an issue of obvious importance to type collectors. It is conditionally scarce at the Superb Gem grade level, with or without cameo contrast.

Provenance: *Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (11/1999).* NGC ID# 242G, PCGS# 5687

1902 Barber Quarter, PR66
Distinctive Toning Scheme



98610 1902 PR66 PCGS. CAC. Tinges of deep orange-gold and olive toning accent pale powder-blue patina on the obverse of this Premium Gem proof, while the reverse exhibits more fluid shades of violet, olive-gold, and palomino-orange. The design elements are fully defined throughout.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS data show 28 in PR66 (three PR66+) and six finer. NGC accounts for 41 submitted in PR66 (one PR66+, one PR66+ ★) and 22 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Cameo examples of the 1902 proof are seldom seen, leaving the budget-conscious collector with a small number of high-end non-Cameos from which to choose. This imbalance in the number of Cameo representatives known is a result of a change in the die preparation for proofs, which eliminated much of the field-motif contrast seen on earlier issues.

Provenance: *Americana Sale (Stack's, 1/2006), lot 1640.* NGC ID# 242H, PCGS# 5688

1902 Quarter, Lightly Toned PR67



98611 1902 PR67 NGC. Bold motifs and deeply mirrored fields are the chief attributes this Superb Gem proof possesses, residing beneath a blanket of warm champagne toning on the obverse and deeper orange-gold on the reverse. No contact marks or discernible hairlines appear.

Population Data (9/15): There are 17 submissions in PR67 at NGC (one PR67 ★, one PR67+ ★) and four finer. PCGS counts six in PR67 and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: With a mintage of 777 pieces, the 1902 began a gradual decline in proof Barber quarter production that would last until the end of the series. Superb Gem survivors, such as this example, are seldom offered, with or without cameo contrast.

Provenance: *Purchased from Kevin Lipton (12/2005).* NGC ID# 242H, PCGS# 5688

1902 Quarter, PR67 ★
Rich Color Saturation, Modest Contrast



98612 1902 PR67 ★ NGC. Marvelous original toning on the obverse resolves under a light into lilac-pinkish central hues, complementing the ocean-blue at the rims. The reverse is nearly silver-white in the center, with marginal glints of pink and gold. The strike is complete, and the eye appeal is seemingly unsurpassable.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 18 in PR67 including this PR67 ★ coin and one in PR67+ ★ with four finer, all PR68. The finest at PCGS are six in PR67.

Heritage Commentary: Due to the method of manufacture for the dies, few proof quarters of 1902 are seen with any degree of cameo contrast. This beautifully toned Superb Gem, showing modest contrast beneath the patina, is a refreshing exception to the rule.

Provenance: *Houston Signature (Heritage, 12/2009), lot 582; purchased from Aspen Park Rare Coins (5/2010).* NGC ID# 242H, PCGS# 5688

1903 Quarter, PR66
One-Sided Toning, Ex: Childs



98613 1903 PR66 PCGS. Ex: The Childs Collection. Bold design elements and modest field-device contrast appear on the reverse of this well-preserved Premium Gem proof, while the obverse is a little too deeply toned in lavender-gold and nickel-gray hues to warrant a Cameo designation. A tiny mark near Liberty's chin is undistracting.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows 21 submissions in PR66 and 18 finer. NGC reports 35 pieces in PR66 (two PR66+) and 50 finer, including nine in PR68.

Heritage Commentary: This is only the second time this outstanding proof has been offered at public auction, believed to have resided in the Walter H. Childs Collection for nearly a century before being acquired by Gene Gardner nearly two decades ago. This important offering should not be overlooked.

Provenance: *Possibly purchased directly from the Mint by Walter H. Childs; Walter H. Childs Collection (Bowers and Merena, 8/1999), lot 299.* NGC ID# 242J, PCGS# 5689

1904 Quarter, Toned PR64
Collectible Grade



98614 1904 PR64 PCGS. A bold strike and flashy fields are the hallmarks of this collector-grade proof type coin. Both sides show dusky lavender-gray and tan-gold toning which masks any grade-limiting hairlines in the fields.

Population Data (9/15): Several dozen submissions at PCGS are in the PR64 grade level, which is about an average grade for this proof issue. PCGS reports 77 in higher grades.

Heritage Commentary: The 1904 proof quarter had a limited mintage of 670 pieces, although enough survive in middle grades to provide the budget-conscious collector with an obtainable but eye-appealing example.

Provenance: *Purchased privately from Stack's (6/1995).* NGC ID# 242K, PCGS# 5690

1905 Quarter, Toned PR67
From the Childs Collection



98615 1905 PR67 PCGS. CAC. Ex: The Childs Collection. This Superb Gem proof shows an unusual pattern of deep sea-green and amber-gold encompassing much of the obverse. The reverse shows only subtle lavender-gold color around the peripheries. The satiny devices are boldly rendered and the fields exhibit ample mirroring.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 11 submissions in PR67 and two PR68 finer. NGC shows 23 in PR67 (one PR67+) and three PR68 finer. This is among nine in this grade with the green CAC approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: This piece is believed to have had only two different owners in its more than a century of existence. Another opportunity to acquire this outstanding proof may not occur for another long span of years. "Fresh" coins such as this always attract strong interest from knowledgeable collectors.

Provenance: *Possibly acquired directly from the Mint by Walter H. Childs; Walter H. Childs Collection (Bowers and Merena, 8/1999), lot 301.* NGC ID# 242L, PCGS# 5691

1906 Quarter, PR66
Delicately Toned, Ex: Childs



98616 1906 PR66 PCGS. Ex: The Childs Collection. This Premium Gem proof is boldly struck with deeply reflective fields and excellent surface preservation. The obverse shows subtle champagne, lavender, and mint-green hues, with faintly peppered aqua-blue overall; the reverse is more uniformly colored a soft golden-tan hue.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS lists 40 PR66 (two PR66+) and 25 finer. NGC reports 48 submissions in PR66 and 39 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The seemingly high number of non-Cameo 1906 proof quarters certified belies this issue's overall availability. Since Cameo examples are extremely rare and Deep Cameos are unknown, the non-Cameo population represents almost the entirety the 1906 proof's survival. Moreover, resubmissions are likely reflected in the above data (and perhaps far more than generally thought).

Provenance: *Possibly acquired directly from the Mint by Walter H. Childs; Walter H. Childs Collection (Bowers and Merena, 8/1999), lot 302. NGC ID# 242M, PCGS# 5692*

1908 Quarter, PR67
Beautifully Toned
From the Childs Collection



98617 1908 PR67 PCGS. CAC. Ex: The Childs Collection. This Superb Gem proof is sharply struck, displaying deeply mirrored fields and carefully preserved surfaces. The reverse shows noticeable cameo contrast with tinges of amber and blue around the borders, although the obverse is too deeply toned in shades of rose-gold, violet, and royal-blue to qualify for the designation.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS records 16 grading events in PR67 (one PR67+) and six PR68 finer. NGC accounts for has seen 23 pieces in PR67 (three PR67 ★), also with six PR68 (two PR68 ★) finer.

Heritage Commentary: The proof 1908 quarter had a limited mintage of just 545 pieces, continuing a trend of low-mintage proof issues that would endure until the end of the series. Superb Gem examples are elusive, with or without cameo contrast. Gene Gardner owned two examples of this issue, the other a PR68 PCGS example.

Provenance: *Possibly acquired directly from the Mint by C.F. Childs; Walter H. Childs Collection (Bowers and Merena, 8/1999), lot 304. NGC ID# 242P, PCGS# 5694*

1909 Quarter, PR68
None Numerically Finer



98618 1909 PR68 NGC. This high-end Superb Gem proof showcases intermingled shades of olive-gold and turquoise over pale amber and champagne toning on each side. A high degree of reflectivity frames the satiny devices, while the only discernable strike weakness is seen on the upper-right corner of the shield, as usual.

Population Data (9/15): Twelve submissions in PR68 (two in PR68 ★) are the finest at NGC, and eight in PR68 are finest at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: The proof 1909 Barber quarter had a limited mintage of just 650 pieces, few of which survive in Superb Gem condition. A handful of PR68 examples are the finest obtainable by patient collectors. This was the finer of two 1909 proof quarters that Gene Gardner had in his collection; the other was a PR67 example.

Provenance: *Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (11/1999).* NGC ID# 242R, PCGS# 5695

1910 Quarter, PR64 Cameo
Light, Consistent Toning



98619 1910 PR64 Cameo NGC. Deep mirrors and frosty design elements create pleasing field-motif contrast on each side of this Choice Cameo proof, even through a blanket of warm tan-gold toning that deepens to pale rose around the peripheries. Trivial strike weakness on the eagle's talons is undistracting.

Population Data (9/15): NGC lists 15 submissions in PR64 Cameo and 61 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The proof 1910 quarter is an available date in the absolute sense, but Cameo representatives are scarce and Deep Cameos are notable rarities. Collector-grade pieces in one of these categories are always in demand from budget-conscious collectors.

Provenance: *Numisma '95 (Stack's, 11/1995), lot 1237.* NGC ID# 254Y, PCGS# 85696

1911 Quarter, PR65 Cameo
Bold Field-Device Contrast



98620 1911 PR65 Cameo NGC. CAC. Stark field-motif contrast and bold design rendering are the chief attributes of this Gem Cameo proof, although warm champagne toning that deepens slightly around the borders also contributes to the pleasing eye appeal. Close study with a lens reveals trivial hairlines in the fields, in concert with the grade.

Population Data (9/15): NGC has seen 15 grading events in PR65 Cameo with 38 finer. This is among eight in this grade with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1911 is a popular proof quarter issue with a limited mintage of 543 pieces. Cameo representatives are especially sought-after but are seldom seen in Gem or finer condition.

Provenance: *Numisma '95 (Stack's, 11/1995), lot 1239.* NGC ID# 242T, PCGS# 85697

1914 Quarter, PR67
Modest Field-Device Contrast, Ex: Childs



98621 1914 PR67 PCGS. Ex: The Childs Collection. This piece was described in the Childs catalog as "A superb cameo Proof, an absolutely stunning Barber quarter." Although not designated as a Cameo by PCGS, this mostly brilliant coin does exhibit modest field-motif contrast on each side. The strike is bold and tinges of amber and ocean-blue color appear periodically around the peripheries.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows 14 submissions in PR67 and four finer. NGC reports 17 pieces in this grade (two PR67 ★, one PR67+) and 10 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1914 had the lowest mintage of the proof Barber quarter series (380 coins); high-grade survivors are always in demand, especially if they exhibit noticeable field-motif contrast.

Provenance: *Possibly acquired directly from the Mint by C.F. Childs; Walter H. Childs Collection (Bowers and Merena, 8/1999), lot 309.* NGC ID# 242W, PCGS# 5700

1915 Quarter, Toned PR64
Collectible Final-Year Proof



98622 1915 PR64 PCGS. This well-struck final-year proof displays satiny devices set against highly reflective fields. Deep fuchsia, violet, and golden-brown toning encompasses each side, eliminating the possibility of a Cameo designation but also masking any grade-limiting hairlines.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows 59 grading events in PR64 and 48 finer.

Heritage Commentary: This final-year proof issue is slightly more elusive overall than many earlier dates in the Barber quarter series. Only 450 pieces were struck, trailing only the 1914 as the second-lowest proof mintage of the Barber series.

Provenance: *Numisma '95 (Stack's session, 11/1995), lot 1241. NGC ID# 242X, PCGS# 5701*

1915 Quarter, PR68
Among the Finest Certified



98623 1915 PR68 NGC. Warm sun-gold, lavender, and steel-blue hues grace the obverse of this Superb Gem proof, while the reverse displays more uniform olive-gold patina. The strike is boldly executed, and close examination with a glass fails to reveal any significant surface disruptions.

Population Data (9/15): NGC data show five submissions in PR68 (one PR68 ★) and none finer. The finest at PCGS are two in PR68.

Heritage Commentary: Although the Barber design remained in production throughout 1916, no proofs were coined of the type after 1915, making it the final acquisition required for a complete date set of proof Barber quarters. The 1915 is also the final proof quarter issue of any type until 1936, when the Washington quarter was issued in proof format for the first time.

Provenance: *Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (11/2000). NGC ID# 242X, PCGS# 5701*

STANDING LIBERTY QUARTER

1917 Type One Quarter, MS66 Full Head
Splendidly Toned



98624 1917 Type One MS66 Full Head NGC. The lovely multihued toning over much of each side sets this Premium Gem Full Head 1917 Type One quarter apart from most of its comparably graded peers. The obverse showcases wide bands of russet, amber-orange, lemon-gold, and aquamarine around a pale champagne center, while the reverse exhibits similar hues in tight peripheral rings with the center essentially brilliant. The strike is expectedly sharp for the issue, and close study with a loupe reveals only a few tiny ticks, not out of line for the grade.

Population Data (9/15): NGC data show this available issue to be represented by 66 submissions in MS67 Full Head or finer grades. Neither NGC nor PCGS has ever graded an MS68 Full Head example of the 1917 issue thus far, however.

Heritage Commentary: For the Standing Liberty quarter enthusiast, finding a sharp, well-preserved example of this plentiful Type One issue is not so much the challenge as is finding a coin that is beautifully toned. Most representatives are seen with only a light golden hue or full mint brilliance. The collector seeking natural, multicolor patina will find the current offering to be a great reward for their patience.

Provenance: Purchased from Aspen Park Rare Coins (3/2012). NGC ID# 242Z, PCGS# 5707

WASHINGTON QUARTER

1939-S Quarter, MS67
Registry Set Quality



98625 1939-S MS67 PCGS. CAC. Milky champagne patina is accompanied by a few scattered flecks of charcoal toning on the obverse, while the underlying surfaces are essentially devoid of distractions. A sharp strike contributes to the pleasing eye appeal.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows 59 submissions in MS67 (one MS67+) and none at the MS68 level. This piece is among 28 for the grade awarded a CAC endorsement.

Heritage Commentary: This coin is numerically equal to the example represented in the current highest-rated Registry Set and is a must-have for collectors seeking to advance their ranking in the PCGS Set Registry.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2005), lot 6839; purchased from Pinnacle Rareities (3/2012). NGC ID# 244T, PCGS# 5810

EARLY HALF DOLLARS

1795 Flowing Hair Half, Sharp MS61 O-104, Two Leaves, Condition Census



98626 1795 2 Leaves, O-104, T-24, R.4, MS61 NGC. This is an unusually appealing Flowing Hair half dollar, especially for the MS61 grade level where one would normally expect to see a plethora of minor abrasions or Mint-made planchet problems such as adjustment marks. This coin is devoid of adjustment marks and exhibits remarkably clean surfaces for the grade. Striking definition is equally superb; Liberty's hair curls are boldly defined, and above-average sharpness is evident on the eagle's breast and head. The border denticles are impressively bold around each side, and the wreath leaves are sharply delineated. Both sides exhibit consistent lavender-gray and olive-gold hues that blend amid deeper gunmetal-gray accents, the lighter colors most clearly revealed when tilted beneath a light.

Variety: O-104, R.4. Die cracks connect LIBERTY and the tops of stars 9 through 13. There is a die lump at the base of the B in LIBERTY. On the reverse, the M in AMERICA is boldly recut right, and the wreath exhibits a 10x7 berry arrangement. This die pair is the only use of this obverse, and one of three for this reverse (not counting late die state varieties). O-104 is a very scarce die pairing but is obtainable for type or date purposes. The present coin is right in the middle of the Condition Census for the variety.

Population Data (9/15): All varieties included, NGC has seen 10 1795 Flowing Hair halves in MS61 and 43 finer; PCGS lists two coins in this grade and 31 finer.

Heritage Commentary: While there are a number of astute variety specialists, many collectors simply seek to acquire early half dollars by type. For the Flowing Hair motif, it would be difficult to find a more suitable example than the present coin; a lack of adjustment marks, bold detail, and Mint State surfaces deliver a degree of appeal that is seldom seen on any example of this type, regardless of variety. This coin is sure to please even the most discerning enthusiast.

Provenance: *October Sale (Stack's, 10/1997)*, lot 649. NGC ID# 24E7, PCGS# 39219 Base PCGS# 6052

1806/5 Half Dollar, O-101, AU58
Lovely Color and Surfaces



98627 1806/5 O-101, R.3, AU58 PCGS. CAC. Luminous gold, mint-green, and ocean-blue hues highlight the peripheral recesses on each side of this otherwise lavender-gray near-Mint O-101 representative. The usual strike deficiency is evident on the upper-right reverse and the corresponding portion of the obverse, but actual wear is almost nonexistent and the surfaces are attractively free of the numerous small abrasions that typically accompany an AU grade.

Variety: O-101, R.3 — the popular 1806/5 *Guide Book* variety. This obverse does not appear to have been used in 1805 but was apparently prepared in 1805 and then left unused until 1806, when it was overdated prior to production. Star 12 on the obverse is recut, as are the T in UNITED and the second T in STATES on the reverse. This near-Mint piece is right in the middle of the Condition Census for the variety.

Population Data (9/15): All varieties included, PCGS has seen just 10 1806/5 half dollars in AU58 and seven finer; NGC contributes 12 pieces in AU58 and six finer.

Heritage Commentary: O-101 is not rare in the absolute sense but does become conditionally so in the upper AU and Mint State grade range. Such examples are in high demand by Overton specialists, as well as *Guide Book* variety hunters.

Provenance: Public Auction Sale (*Stack's*, 3/1998), lot 488. NGC ID# 374C, PCGS# 39296 Base PCGS# 6077

1806 Half Dollar, AU53
O-106, Knob 6, Small Stars
Semiprooflike Fields



98628 1806 Knob 6, Small Stars, O-106, R.4, AU53 PCGS. Hints of warm golden toning accent the bright, satiny surfaces of this lightly circulated but still well-detailed O-106 representative. Weakness in the clouds and stars to the upper-right of the eagle's head is the only mentionable striking deficiency. Semiprooflike reflectivity is evident in the protected regions of the fields, particularly on the reverse.

Variety: O-106, R.4. There is a Knobbed 6 in the date and the 8 is recut. The reverse shows a stem through the eagle's claw, with six berries on the olive branch; sharp die lines protrude from the upper-right corner of the shield and from the fletchings toward the tailfeathers.

Population Data (9/15): Of those pieces certified and attributed as O-106, PCGS has seen just one in this grade and one finer; NGC shows none in this grade with two finer. Other representatives are known to exist, but are unattributed by the certification services at this time.

Heritage Commentary: O-106 is a very scarce variety, but its elusiveness is most fully appreciated in AU and Mint State grades, where it is conditionally rare. Nonetheless, the acquisition of such a coin would serve well as a type representative for the collector seeking to expand from the more available varieties of this year.

Provenance: Purchased from Harry Laibstain (7/2007). NGC ID# 24EJ, PCGS# 39306 Base PCGS# 6075

BUST HALF DOLLARS

1808 Half Dollar, O-107a, MS66 High Condition Census



98629 1808 O-107a, R.2, MS66 PCGS. CAC. As the Premium Gem grade suggests, the surface preservation of this incredible type coin is far superior to most other examples of this issue — only a faint line in front of Liberty's neck is noted for accuracy. Radiant, original luster illuminates mottled olive, lavender-gray, and champagne toning on each side. The central devices are well-defined, with moderate die fatigue evident around the peripheries.

Variety: O-107a, R.2. The late die state variant of O-107, showing a prominent die crack extending across the obverse from star 5 to star 9. The present piece is high Condition Census for the variety.

Population Data (9/15): For all 1808 All varieties, PCGS reports six submissions in MS66 (one in MS66+) and four finer. NGC accounts nine in MS66 (one in MS66+) and two finer. This is one of three 1808s in this grade with the CAC green approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: Variety is of little significance at the Premium Gem grade level, as any 1808 half dollar is extremely rare this fine. A high-caliber coin such as the present piece is ideal for the patient type collector.

Provenance: Purchased from Bill Nagle (6/2002). NGC ID# 24EP, PCGS# 39371 Base PCGS# 6090

1814 Half Dollar, O-105, MS63 High-End for the Grade



98630 1814 O-105, R.2, MS63 NGC. CAC. Strong, satiny luster cartwheels beneath soft lavender-gray toning that shows brighter gold and olive hues in the peripheral recesses when rotated beneath a light. The eagle's right (facing) talons and the corresponding obverse stars are a trifle weak, but the definition is otherwise strong throughout. Housed in a "no line fatty" holder.

Variety: O-105, R.2. A Normal Date variety with bold clash marks around Liberty's ear.

Population Data (9/15): For all 1814 Normal Date varieties, NGC reports 32 submitted in MS63 and 63 finer. PCGS shows 29 in MS63 (one MS63+) and 50 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1814 half dollar is moderately available in the absolute sense, but pleasing Mint State pieces are elusive, particularly in grades above MS63.

Provenance: *Rarities Sale (Bowers and Merena, 7/1997)*, lot 177. NGC ID# 24F3, PCGS# 39480 Base PCGS# 6105

1820 Large Date Half Dollar, MS65
O-108, Square Base 2, No Knob
High Condition Census



98631 1820 Square Base 2, Large Date, No Knob, O-108, R.2, MS65 NGC. No evidence of die cracks, clash marks, or other die defects is seen on either side of this Gem. Both sides richly toned in gray-brown color with peripheral blue-green accents. All of the design motifs are sharp and well-detailed with full borders presenting a nicely balanced appearance. The surfaces beneath the toning display full frosty luster.

Variety: O-108, R.2. Square Base 2, Large Date, No Knob. Star 5 is recut on the obverse, and the olive branch is distinctly die doubled on the reverse.

Population Data (9/15): For all Normal Date varieties, NGC has seen five submitted in MS65 (one MS65) and two finer.

Heritage Commentary: While rare varieties exist for almost every date in the Capped Bust half dollar series, only a few individual dates are considered scarce or rare when the entire population of that date is considered. The rarest date, of course, is 1815, and the second most difficult is clearly 1820. Although the O-108 1820 die marriage is considered just R.2, it is another common variety that is seldom seen in Gem condition. Among famous half dollar collections sold in recent times, the Queller Collection and the Buddy Byers Collection both lacked examples of this die marriage, while the Eliasberg Collection included a piece graded MS60.

Provenance: Westmoreland, Virginia Collection, Part II / FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2007), lot 969. NGC ID# 24FD, PCGS# 39570 Base PCGS# 6123

1821 Half Dollar, O-106, AU58
Deeply Prooflike Fields
Unsurpassed Quality for the Grade



98632 1821 O-106, R.1, AU58 PCGS. CAC. This is a spectacular, fully prooflike example of this moderately available variety, boasting sharp central and peripheral detail with warm sun-gold toning over each side. A trace of cabinet friction over the highest points of the design precludes a Mint State grade from PCGS, but the overall appearance is that of an Uncirculated piece struck with care from highly polished dies.

Variety: O-106, R.1. An available variety, identified by a bold horizontal die line in the lower shield stripes.

Population Data (9/15): There are a number of Mint State 1821 halves certified finer than this AU58 coin, although this piece is set apart from most of its peers by its prooflike fields. While PCGS does not have a distinct designation for Prooflike circulation strikes, NGC does, and has so-designated only six examples in all grades.

Heritage Commentary: The 1821 half dollar is a moderately available issue, but it is an extremely rare event when a piece such as this is offered. Although not a proof, the deep, glassy fields and sharp details are eye-catching. Stack's described this coin as possible presentation strike in its June 1999 offering, and such an assessment is not altogether out of the question.

Provenance: Dr. Alfred R. Globus Sale (Stack's, 6/1999), lot 2199. NGC ID# 24FF, PCGS# 39584 Base PCGS# 6128

1826 Half Dollar, O-104a, MS65+
Fresh, Lightly Toned Surfaces



98633 1826 O-104a, R.3, MS65+ PCGS. CAC. This is a truly impressive Gem, showcasing a degree of luster that is only seen on fresh, original coins. Intense mint frost underlies soft shades of lavender, ice-blue, and olive-gold toning, while the central design elements are incredibly bold and the border regions are equally well brought up. A couple of truly faint ticks on Liberty's neck appear to be the only disturbances in the intricate preservation of each side.

Variety: O-104a, R.3. The late die state variant of O-104, with light die cracks along the base of ERICA and below 50 C. and the arrowheads. This piece was misattributed as O-107 in the 1997 Stack's catalog.

Population Data (9/15): For all 1826 varieties, PCGS has seen 37 submissions in MS65 (three MS65+) and 10 finer. NGC reports 58 in MS65 (one MS65+) and 25 finer. CAC has given the green approval sticker to nine in the MS65 grade and 10 finer of the date.

Heritage Commentary: Despite a mintage in excess of 4 million coins, the 1826 half dollar seldom appears in Gem condition, and finer pieces are rare. This Plus-graded coin balances much of the technical quality of a finer piece with the affordability of an MS65 coin. Ideal for type representation.

Provenance: Auction '84 (RARCOA, 7/1984), lot 1661; Public Auction Sale (Stack's, 12/1997), lot 2227. NGC ID# 24FM, PCGS# 39671 Base PCGS# 6143

1829 Small Letters Half Dollar, MS65
O-112a, Eye-Catching Patina



98634 1829 Small Letters, O-112a, R.2, MS65 PCGS. This is a spectacular Gem with an eye-catching patina of gold, sea-green, cerulean-blue, and gray hues. Vibrant mint luster shines beneath the toning, and only a few minor marks appear on each side. The design elements are sharply detailed in all areas, save for a touch of softness on the upper stars. The visual appeal is outstanding. Housed in a green label holder.

Variety: O-112a, R.2. Twenty die varieties pairing 11 obverse and 16 reverse die combinations are known for the 1829 Capped Bust half dollar. This piece shows parallel die lines below star 13 that have been weakened by lapping, indicating the available O-112a variety.

Population Data (9/15): Including all Overton varieties, PCGS has seen 21 submissions in MS65 (two MS65+) and four finer, up through a single MS66+. NGC shows 24 in MS65 (two in MS65 ★) and 12 finer, again including a lone MS66+.

Heritage Commentary: Half dollar mintages were considerable throughout the 1820s and 1830s — but not because of commercial demand. Instead, depositors of silver bullion were constantly faced with Mint officials who were reluctant to pay out smaller subsidiary silver denominations. The reason was simple: It was faster and cheaper to produce a few half dollars than many smaller coins. Over 3.7 million half dollars were struck in 1829. The large silver coins circulated to a limited extent domestically, but they were popular among banks and regularly used for payments abroad. Uncirculated examples can be located through MS64 condition, while Gems are decidedly rare.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 5/2012), lot 3803. NGC ID# 4DBK, PCGS# 39796 Base PCGS# 6154

1831 Half Dollar, O-103, MS64
Green Label Holder With CAC Approval



98635 1831 O-103, R.1, MS64 PCGS. CAC. Satiny luster highlights pale champagne toning that deepens to copper-orange around the peripheries. The design elements are well-defined, and grade-limiting abrasions are primarily limited to a few light, scattered ticks on the obverse portrait. Housed in a green label PCGS holder.

Variety: O-103, R.1. There is a die crack along the base of the date and the upright of the 5 in 50 C. is recut.

Population Data (9/15): For all 1831 varieties, PCGS has seen 69 submissions at the Gem grade level or higher.

Heritage Commentary: With a mintage of more than 5.8 million pieces, the 1831 half dollar is an available date, ideal for type purposes. While Choice examples are obtainable, Gems are scarce, and anything finer is out of reach for most collectors. This MS64 coin provides the budget-conscious collector with an affordable, yet technically appealing date or type representative.

Provenance: Douglas L. Noblet Collection; Rarities Sale (Bowers and Merena, 1/1999), lot 48. NGC ID# 24FV, PCGS# 39839 Base PCGS# 6159

REEDED EDGE HALF DOLLAR

1839-O Half Dollar, GR-1, MS65
Condition Census for the Variety



98636 1839-O GR-1, R.1, MS65 NGC. Satiny luster illumines hints of pale lavender, champagne, and russet toning throughout each side of this Gem Reeded Edge half dollar. The design elements are sharply brought up throughout. A few light, scattered ticks on the obverse portrait are all that limit the grade. Struck from a late state of the dies, with extensive cracks throughout each side, especially around the peripheries.

Variety: GR-1, R.1. This is the most frequently encountered variety for the 1839-O half dollar, readily identified by recutting on the mintmark. The other four known die pairings are scarce to prohibitively rare, making GR-1 ideal for date representation.

Population Data (9/15): For all varieties, NGC has seen only eight submissions in MS65 with three finer. PCGS lists four in MS65 and two finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1839-O is arguably the most sought-after Reeded Edge half dollar outside of the key-date 1836. The New Orleans Mint began production in 1838, but half dollar coinage was limited to just 20 proofs. Thus, the 1839-O is the first circulation-issue half dollar from this mint, struck to the limited extent of only 116,000 coins, far fewer than the more than 1.3 million pieces coined in Philadelphia that same year. Mint State survivors are rare, regardless of grade, but Gem and finer coins are the most highly sought-after.

Provenance: ANA National Money Show Sale (Superior, 3/2000), lot 410. NGC ID# 24G7, PCGS# 531106 Base PCGS# 6181

SEATED HALF DOLLARS

1839 No Drapery Seated Half, MS64 Lovely Original Toning



98637 1839 No Drapery, WB-101, MS64 PCGS. This Choice example of the short-lived No Drapery type is richly toned in lavender-gray, electric-blue, and orange-russet shades. The surfaces display a smooth, frosty texture that is well within the context of the near-Gem grade. The strike is bold on the obverse, and the reverse is boldly defined everywhere except over the eagle's left (facing) leg feathers.

Variety: WB-101, the No Drapery obverse type.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows only 13 submissions in MS64 and three MS65 finer. NGC lists six in MS64 (three MS64+) and also three finer.

Heritage Commentary: A first-year issue and an important one-year type, the 1839 No Drapery is the only coin in this series that displays Christian Gobrecht's original design for the Seated Liberty half dollar. The lack of drapery folds at Liberty's shoulder, as well as small letters around the reverse periphery, allowed for considerable open field space on both sides. Although a refreshing feature from an aesthetic standpoint, this airy design was a magnet for abrasions. It is little wonder, therefore, that high-end Mint State survivors are seldom offered on today's market. The last near-Gem we offered was another PCGS representative that was featured in our 2014 FUN Signature sale, where it realized \$41,125. We anticipate intense interest when this example crosses the auction block.

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2001), lot 7793; purchased from Bill Nagle (3/2002). NGC ID# 24GK, PCGS# 572000 Base PCGS# 6230



1840-(O) Seated Half, MS64
Medium Letters, Reverse of 1838
Popular New Orleans Issue



98638 1840-(O) Medium Letters, WB-101, MS64 PCGS. CAC. Die Pair 4, R.3. This piece is well-defined in the central regions, although trivial softness appears on some star centers. Soft, glowing luster resides beneath a blanket of warm champagne-gray patina, while the surfaces are free of any major abrasions. Light die rust is visible across Liberty's figure with low-power magnification, a diagnostic of this obverse die.

Variety: WB-101, Die Pair 4, R.3. Medium Letters, Reverse of 1838. The 8 in the date is recut. This New Orleans product was struck with a leftover Bust half dollar reverse die without a mintmark, since the Bust halves coined at this facility had the mintmark on the obverse above the date. Other minute differences in the lettering and eagle's claws aid in distinguishing this reverse from those used on Philadelphia-issue Seated halves.

Population Data (9/15): For this unusual variety PCGS has seen nine submissions in Mint State, including three in MS64 and one MS65. NGC shows seven Mint State pieces, including two each in MS64 and MS65.

Heritage Commentary: This issue is widely popular since its identification as a New Orleans issue that lacks a mintmark. Circulated pieces are obtainable, but Mint State coins are major rarities, regardless of grade.

Consignor Commentary: Apparently the managers in New Orleans did not realize that the shift in the position of the mintmark from front to the back of the half dollar in 1840 meant that there would be no mintmark on this coin; a rare variety in Mint State. Wiley and Bugert state that they have never seen an example of this coin without die cracks on the reverse, and indeed, this piece is extensively cracked.

Provenance: Purchased from Jim O'Donnell (3/2002). NGC ID# 24GP, PCGS# 572003 Base PCGS# 6233

1840 Reverse of 1839 Half Dollar, MS66
Tied for Finest Graded
Among Three With CAC Approval



98639 1840 Small Letters, WB-101, MS66 PCGS. CAC. Well-preserved, frosty mint luster shimmers beneath a light champagne veil on each side of this Premium Gem type coin, with deeper amber and olive overtones present in the peripheral recesses. The top of Liberty's head and several stars show some minor strike weakness, as does the eagle's head and left (facing) leg. Overall, an appealing example of this elusive issue.

Variety: WB-101, Normal Date. Small Letters, Reverse of 1839.

Population Data (9/15): This Premium Gem is tied with five others as the finest at PCGS. NGC reports three submissions in MS66 and none finer. Moreover, this piece is one of just 15 PCGS-graded coins in MS66 or better for the entire pre-1853 No Arrows type, and it is one of only three Premium Gem 1840 halves with CAC endorsement.

Heritage Commentary: For the type collector, the 1840 Reverse of 1839 half dollar is the most easily accessible entry into the lofty Premium Gem grade, although finding such a coin will nonetheless prove a significant challenge. This outstanding piece will be a rich reward for one patient enthusiast.

Consignor Commentary: This piece shows nice original toning with pleasing eye appeal. There is another 1840 Reverse of '39 in the collection, a WB-104 in MS65 NGC. Just about as nice, that coin also has a completely doubled date.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (10/2001). NGC ID# 24GM, PCGS# 572002 Base PCGS# 6234

1840 Seated Half Dollar, MS63
Small Letters Reverse of 1839



98640 1840 Small Letters, Repunched Date, WB-102, FS-301, MS63 PCGS. CAC. Peach-to-orange peripheral toning gives way to pale silver and deeper medium-gray color in the centers. The surfaces are lustrous with light abrasions that dot the reverse, while the design elements are sharply defined.

Variety: WB-102, FS-301. Small Letters, Reverse of 1839. The 40 in the date is noticeably recut north. This variety is extremely rare in pleasing Mint State condition.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows 17 submissions in MS63 and 29 finer. NGC reports 14 and 27 in comparable grades.

Heritage Commentary: Despite a mintage of more than 1.4 million pieces, the 1840 Reverse of 1839 half dollar is somewhat scarcer in Mint State than is generally realized by nonspecialists. Select Mint State examples are seldom seen, and Gem-quality pieces are rare.

Provenance: *Long Beach Signature* (Heritage, 2/2011), lot 3690. NGC ID# 24GM, PCGS# 392647 Base PCGS# 6234

1840 Seated Half Dollar, MS65
Reverse of 1839
WB-104, Repunched Date



98641 1840 Small Letters, Repunched Date, WB-104, FS-302, MS65 NGC. Vivid royal-blue and violet peripheral hues blend to lighter orange-gold centers on each side of this Gem 1840 half dollar. The strike is bold throughout the stars, the gown folds, and the eagle's talons, areas that are often weak, even on Philadelphia issues. Semiprooflike in the obverse fields with only a few minute ticks on the high points of the design.

Variety: WB-104, FS-302. Small Letters, Reverse of 1839. The date is boldly recut on this obverse. This variety is rarely seen in any Mint State grade.

Population Data (9/15): For the 1840 half NGC lists 13 submitted in MS65 (one MS65 ★) and three MS66 finer. PCGS enumerates six in Gem condition and six finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1840 Reverse of 1839 half dollar is one of the more available 1840s Seated half issues in Gem and finer grades but is still a significant rarity at this level, which speaks to the scarcity of any half dollar from this period in high grade.

Provenance: *Purchased from Jason Carter* (10/2001). NGC ID# 24GM, PCGS# 392648 Base PCGS# 6234

1841-O Half Dollar, MS64
One Finer at PCGS
Ex: James Stack, David Queller



98642 1841-O WB-101, MS64 PCGS. CAC. Die Pair 6, R.4. Satiny luster underlies blended shades of lavender-gray, gold, and purple-blue toning on each side of this Choice 1841-O half. The design elements are well-defined, and the surfaces reveal few abrasions for the grade.

Variety: WB-101, Die Pair 6, R.4. A late die state example with cracks through the M in AMERICA and from the rim to the right of the mintmark. This is the only known use of both dies.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS has seen seven grading events in MS64 (one MS64+), but one MS66 is finest. NGC reports five pieces in in MS64 and four finer — three in MS65, one in MS66. CAC has given its green approval sticker to this piece and two others so graded.

Heritage Commentary: The 1841-O half dollar is a distinct condition rarity, seldom seen in any Mint State grade and prohibitively rare finer than MS64. This CAC-approved coin represents an important opportunity for the advanced Seated half collector.

The James A. Stack provenance first, then the famous collection formed by David Queller of half dollars (complete from 1794 to 1963), and finally the Gene Gardner Collection, promotes this fantastic coin to a level of cachet that its peers simply cannot match.

Provenance: James A. Stack Collection (Stack's, 3/1975), lot 426; Queller Family Collection (Stack's, 10/2002), lot 464. NGC ID# 24GS, PCGS# 572009 Base PCGS# 6237

1842 Small Date, Large Letters Half, MS62
Reverse of 1842, Appealing for the Grade



98643 1842 Small Date, Large Letters, WB-101, MS62 PCGS. CAC. Subtle semiprooflike mirroring in the fields illuminates soft champagne toning in the centers that deepens to amber and iridescent blue around the peripheries. The design elements are boldly struck. Each side shows light, grade-consistent abrasions.

Variety: WB-101. Small Date, Reverse of 1842. This is the scarcer of the two die pairings that constitute the WB-101 variety, identified by a heavy bisecting die break that spans from the A in HALF, through the eagle, to the M in AMERICA.

Population Data (9/15): For the Small Date, Reverse of 1842 PCGS reports four five submitted in MS62 and 15 finer. NGC accounts for four in this grade and seven finer.

Heritage Commentary: The Small Date 1842 half dollar is significantly scarcer than its Medium Date counterpart. Examples are seldom seen in any grade, and Mint State coins are absolute and conditional rarities.

Provenance: George F. Scanlon Collection (Stack's, 10/1973), lot 1429; Robison Collection (Stack's, 2/1982), lot 1616; Albert W. Savage Sale (Stack's, 10/1997), lot 678. NGC ID# 24GT, PCGS# 572011 Base PCGS# 6240

1842 Small Date Half, MS63
Reverse of 1842
Rarely Seen in Mint State



98644 1842 Small Date, Large Letters, WB-101, MS63 PCGS. This lovely, satiny 1842 half dollar is mostly untuned in the centers with gradually deepening golden-rose and blue patina around the margins. The surfaces are sharply struck throughout and show light, grade-consistent abrasions.

Variety: WB-101, Small Date, Reverse of 1842. The reverse periphery is extensively cracked, most notably with a bisecting break from the O in DOL. through the second T in STATES.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS data show eight Small Date in MS63 (one MS63+) and eight finer. NGC records four and three in comparable levels.

Heritage Commentary: The 1842 Seated half is a favorite date among collectors and is significantly scarcer than its Medium Date counterpart. Wiley and Bugert list two Small Date head dies and four tail dies comprising four different marriages; this piece represents the more often seen of the two marriages for the WB-101 variety, but it remains elusive in all grades, and any Small Date half in Mint State is a major rarity.

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2007), lot 4460; Houston Signature (Heritage, 11/2007), lot 60647. NGC ID# 24GT, PCGS# 572011 Base PCGS# 6240

1842 Half Dollar, MS63
Small Date, Large Letters



98645 1842 Small Date, Large Letters, WB-102, MS63 NGC. Apple-green and orange hues alternate over the surfaces of this richly detailed and slightly subdued Select representative. The fields displays a few inconspicuous abrasions, and the obverse rim has a small nick at 5 o'clock.

Variety: WB-102. This Small Date, Large Letters variety has a cud over TAT in STATES. Prominent die cracks connect the upper obverse stars, the upper portions of (A)MERI(CA), and the bottoms of HALF DOL.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports four submissions in MS63 (two in MS63+) and three finer. PCGS shows eight in MS63 (one MS63+) and seven finer. The finest at either service is a sole MS65+ at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: Most 1842 halves are of the Medium Date variety. The Small Date, Large Letters variant is scarce, and the Small Date, Small Letters is extremely rare.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 5/2009), lot 763. PCGS# 572012 Base PCGS# 6240

1842 Medium Date Half Dollar, MS65
High-End for the Issue



98646 1842 Medium Date, Large Letters, WB-104, MS65 NGC. Sharply struck throughout, the surfaces of this Gem Medium Date 1842 half are satiny and lustrous beneath mottled golden-brown, rose, and russet patina.

Variety: WB-104, Normal Date (no recutting). Medium Date, Large Letters, late die state. Prominent cracks are evident throughout the reverse periphery, as well as along the obverse border from 8 o'clock through the date.

Population Data (9/15): NGC lists four MS65 Medium Date submissions and a single Premium Gem finer. PCGS reports two in this grade and one finer.

Heritage Commentary: All Medium Date halves are rare in Uncirculated grades, and Gems are of the highest order of rarity with only a small handful of others certified in this and finer grades. Gene Gardner clearly loved the numerous varieties of the 1842/1842-O Seated half dollars, owning in all 11 examples of the date from AU58 (PCGS, 1842-O WB-101, Small Date, Small Letters) to MS67 (NGC, 1842-O WB-102, Medium Date).

Provenance: Santa Clara Signature (Heritage, 11/2001), lot 5885; purchased from Jason Carter (11/2001). NGC ID# 24GU, PCGS# 572013 Base PCGS# 6239

1842 Medium Date Half Dollar, MS64
WB-105, Repunched Date
Rarely Seen So Fine



98647 1842 Medium Date, Large Letters, Repunched Date, WB-105, FS-301, MS64 NGC. CAC. This is an attractive Choice example of this conditionally rare Triple Date variety, showing well-detailed design elements and lustrous surfaces under pleasing gold and silver-gray patina.

Variety: WB-105, FS-301, triple-punched date. Medium Date, Large Letters. The digits 842 in the date are noticeably recut north with two errant impressions visible upon close examination. This variety is available in circulated grades, but Mint State examples are major rarities.

Population Data (9/15): For all Medium Date varieties included, NGC lists 12 submitted in MS64 and five finer. PCGS data show 11 in MS64 and three finer. This piece is among eight in this grade with the CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1842 half dollar is known with both a Medium Date and a Small Date logotype. The Medium Date variant is the more often seen, ideal for date purposes. A couple of different repunched date varieties are known, with WB-105 being the more popular due to its *Cherrypickers' Guide* listing and rarity in Mint State.

Provenance: Central States Signature (Heritage, 4/2012), lot 4445; purchased from Bill Nagle (5/2012). NGC ID# 24GU, PCGS# 413710 Base PCGS# 6239

1842-O Small Date, Small Letters Half, AU58
Elusive Reverse of 1839 Variety



98648 1842-O Small Date, Small Letters, WB-101, AU58 PCGS. This near-Mint State example is well-struck with trivial friction over the high points of the design. The central regions show lavender-gray and pale gold color, while the peripheries display deeper teal and sea-green toning. Minimally abraded with glossy surfaces. This is an important rarity among the 1842-O Seated half dollar varieties.

Variety: WB-101, Small Date, Small Letters Reverse of 1839. This Small Letters reverse was also employed for an 1841-O die marriage but is seen in an early die state on this 1842-O variety, indicating that the 1841-O coins were struck later.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS has seen two submissions in AU58 and one MS62 finer. NGC lists five in this grade and two finer — one MS61 and one MS63.

Heritage Commentary: The 1842-O Reverse of 1839 half dollar is a major condition rarity in the series, among the most sought-after 1842 varieties. Lower-grade circulated examples are sometimes encountered, but AU representatives are rare and Mint State coins prohibitively so.

Consignor Commentary: Another difficult die pairing with the Small Date obverse paired to the Small Letters (1839) reverse (High R.6 in XF/AU, R.8 in Mint State, according to Wiley and Bugert). Light friction is seen on the high points of both sides, but the surfaces are relatively clean with no major distractions.

Provenance: Grant Pierce & Sons Collection (Stack's, 5/1965), lot 849; Maurice Bauman Collection (Stack's, 12/1966), lot 91; Greater New York Convention Sale (Stack's, 9/1989), lot 31, where it was described as "About Uncirculated ... prohibitively rare in this condition"; George "Buddy" Byers Collection (Stack's, 10/2006), lot 1123. PCGS# 572015 Base PCGS# 6238

1843 Half Dollar, MS65
Tied for Finest at PCGS



98649 1843 WB-101, MS65 PCGS. CAC. The toning is several layers deep on each side, mainly presenting gray-rose in the centers with pale blue iridescence around the margins. Even through the rich layers of original toning, the mint luster is thick and vibrant. The strike details are strong in all areas and no obvious abrasions appear — nor would any be expected at this grade level.

Variety: WB-101. Most die pairs fall under this Wiley-Bugert attribution, identified by the absence of recutting on the date.

Population Data (9/15): Among PCGS-certified coins, only two other Gems have been graded, and none are finer. NGC shows two in MS65 and two finer — one each in MS66 and MS67.

Heritage Commentary: Unlike many of James Longacre's die-punching efforts from the 1840s, the obverse die used to strike this particular issue was one of his better productions, with no obvious repunching or mispunching of the digits in the date. Even though 3.8 million pieces were minted, there are predictably few known in high grades today.

Provenance: Summer FUN Signature (Heritage, 7/2013), lot 3160. PCGS# 572018 Base PCGS# 6243

1843 Half Dollar, MS66
The Sole Second-Finest Known



98650 1843 WB-101, MS66 NGC. This sharply struck, well-preserved 1843 half dollar delivers excellent eye appeal via its frosty mint luster shining through mottled olive, amber, and champagne toning on each side. A few tiny grazes on the high points of the obverse figure are the only mentionable marks.

Variety: WB-101, Normal Date. Both dies are cracked, the obverse most notably along the bottom of the date and the reverse primarily through the legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Population Data (9/15): NGC lists only four coins in Gem and finer condition, including two MS65, this MS66, and a single MS67 ★ coin. PCGS lists three MS65 as finest.

Heritage Commentary: The 1843 half dollar is among the more often seen issues from this period, but its availability declines sharply at the Choice level, and it becomes extremely rare in Gem and finer grades.

Consignor Commentary: In a 1999 Liberty Seated Collectors Club survey on the relative rarity of Liberty Seated half dollars, Dick Osburn placed this date as one of the most plentiful in the series. With a large mintage of more than 3.8 million coins, there is no doubt it is easily available in most grades. Still, the current coin is a gorgeous example and ranks among the top survivors for quality and eye appeal.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (9/2006). PCGS# 572018 Base PCGS# 6243

1843 Repunched Date Half Dollar, MS64
Attractive Peripheral Color



98651 1843 Repunched Date, WB-103, MS64 NGC. CAC. This original near-Gem displays electric-blue peripheral toning on the obverse and otherwise antique-gray surfaces with tinges of amber and gold. Sharply struck with only a few wispy abrasions.

Variety: WB-103, with the 4 in the date recut. The reverse die is shattered, exhibiting bold peripheral and radial cracks, the most obvious connecting the A in STATES to the top of the eagle's wing. This variety is notably rare in Mint State.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 12 submissions in MS64 (one MS64+) and four finer. PCGS accounts for eight MS64 (one MS64+) and three finer. CAC has given its approval to four in MS64 and two finer.

Heritage Commentary: High-grade survivors of this otherwise common P-mint delivery (3.8 million pieces produced) are anything but available in today's hobby. Mint State survivors are scarce in all grades and rare in Choice or finer condition.

Provenance: Santa Clara Signature (Heritage, 11/2001), lot 5886; purchased from Jason Carter (11/2001). PCGS# 572020 Base PCGS# 6243

**1843-O Half Dollar, MS65
Tied for Finest at PCGS
Sole Gem CAC Example**



98652 1843-O WB-101 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Die Pair 5, R.3. Softly frosted luster glistens over surfaces coated in a blanket of wonderful golden-russet and lavender patina. The eagle's neck and wing feathers are fully rendered, while the obverse stars and talons show moderate indistinctness. Eye appeal and virtually unsurpassed preservation are the two hallmarks of this amazing Gem.

Variety: WB-101, Die Pair 5, R.3. Attribution markers for this die pair include die lines from the dentils between stars 11 and 12, from the eagle's lower left leg into the field, and from the eagle's right chest and wing. The Large O mintmark tilts left.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS and NGC show two Gems apiece. The only finer submission is an MS66 coin at NGC. This is the sole CAC example in this grade.

Heritage Commentary: Half dollar production was appreciable at both the Philadelphia and New Orleans mints in 1843. Mintages reached 3.8 million and 2.2 million coins, respectively. Breen's *Encyclopedia* reports that 10 obverse dies and 15 reverse dies were shipped to the Southern branch mint. Wiley and Bugert's research has confirmed 17 die marriages from 10 obverses and eight reverses, all of which show a Large O mintmark.

As is the case with most other No Motto halves, the 1843-O is a premier rarity in this grade. PCGS ranks it tied for 13th out of 66 No Motto issues and tied for 18th out of all 126 issues in the Seated half series in MS65 or better.

Provenance: Purchased from *Legend Numismatics* (11/2010). PCGS# 572023 Base PCGS# 6244

**1844 Seated Half Dollar, MS64
Light Patina, Original Surfaces**



98653 1844 WB-101 MS64 NGC. CAC. Both sides are boldly struck and mostly brilliant with an overlay of attractive dove-gray and charcoal-russet iridescence at the borders. Light chatter occurs in the lower reverse fields, but the surfaces are otherwise well-preserved with minimal marks, none distracting.

Variety: WB-101. Four obverse dies fall under this category. Faint die cracks surround the obverse, while a more pronounced die crack runs along the lower reverse through the denomination.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports five submitted in MS64 and three MS65 (one MS65 ★) finer. PCGS shows 11 in MS64 and none finer. Four in MS64 have the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1844 Seated half dollar (1.7 million coins) was not saved in significant numbers, and this near-Gem counts itself among the finest survivors available to today's collectors.

Provenance: Purchased from *David Lawrence Rare Coins* (6/2007). PCGS# 572025 Base PCGS# 6245

1844 Half Dollar, Strong MS64
Repunched Date Variety



98654 1844 Repunched Date, WB-103, MS64 NGC. CAC. Flashes of powder-blue and violet complement the intense shades of olive and steel-blue toning that shroud each side. Liberty's head and the eagle's feathers are bold, and all stars show full centers. The olive leaves, claws, and fletchings display equally strong detail. A few light abrasions in the fields limit an even finer grade.

Variety: WB-103. The 44 in the date is recut south, the doubling most noticeable above the digits. A die crack runs from the rim to the top of the U down to the bottoms of NITED and finally up through ST to the rim.

Population Data (9/15): This near-Gem is tied with four others at NGC, which reports three MS65 submissions (one MS65 ★). PCGS shows 11 grading events in MS64 and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1844 is among the more available Seated half dollar issues from the 1840s, though it would be misleading to apply that term to examples in this high grade. The supply of Mint State pieces is sufficient to satisfy most collectors seeking an example in MS62 or MS63. However, Choice representatives are very rare, and finer coins come up for sale with such infrequency that one may have to wait years for a chance to bid on one (with no guarantee of success).

Provenance: Purchased directly from Heritage (1/2003). PCGS# 572027 Base PCGS# 6245

1844-O Half Dollar, Razor-Sharp MS64
High in the Condition Census
Ex: David Queller Family Collection



98655 1844-O WB-101, MS64 PCGS. Die Pair 6, R.3. A nearly full strike is the first attention-grabbing feature of this near-Gem O-mint half dollar. Additional attributes include well-preserved surfaces with only small scattered marks and a layer of pleasing golden-tan, slate, and olive patina with intermittent rose iridescence. Most of the central reverse is brilliant, and lively luster glistens over each side.

Variety: WB-101, Die Pair 6, R.3. This variety displays a die line from the dentil to the rock below Liberty's foot, numerous parallel die lines through the upper reverse legends, and a heavy die line from the rim to the C in AMERICA. This is the first use of Obverse 6 and the only use of Reverse D.

Population Data (9/15): For all varieties, PCGS reports 13 submissions in MS64 and a single MS65 finer. NGC accounts for six MS64 submissions and four MS65 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1844-O usually comes with razor-sharp definition, something that cannot be said of most other issues from the notorious Southern branch mint. Slightly more than 2 million examples were struck. The sole finest MS65 PCGS coin shows significantly softer detail on the obverse than this arguably more appealing Choice representative. Pedigreed to the famous David Queller Family Collection of half dollars offered by Stack's in 2002, a complete collection from 1794 through 1963.

Provenance: Getty Collection (Bowers and Ruddy, 5/1977), lot 489; David Queller Family Collection (Stack's, 10/2002), lot 483. PCGS# 572030 Base PCGS# 6246

1845 Half Dollar, MS64
Tied for Finest at Both Services
Among the Most Elusive P-Mint Issues



98656 1845 WB-101, MS64 NGC. Ex: Richmond Collection. Violet-gray toning blankets the obverse, leaving the reverse a lighter shade of golden-gray with pale lilac elements. The minimally abraded surfaces feature well-struck motifs with softness confined to the upper stars, claws, and fletchings.

Variety: WB-101. Randy Wiley and Bill Bugert identify five die marriages from four obverse dies and three reverse dies. All five die pairs fall under the WB-101 attribution.

Population Data (9/15): NGC and PCGS respectively report three and six MS64 grading events of this issue, with only one MS64 NGC coin from the Eric P. Newman Collection having a Plus designation. Neither firm reports a finer submission.

Heritage Commentary: For reasons unknown, the Philadelphia Mint produced about one-fourth the number of Seated half dollars in 1845 that it had struck the previous year. Of the 589,000 Seated halves minted, only 20 are estimated to survive in Mint State, making the 1845 among the most challenging P-mint issues in the entire series from 1839 to 1891. This piece is nonetheless one of two in Mint State that Gene Gardner managed to amass in his incredible collection.

Provenance: *Richmond Collection, Part III* (David Lawrence Rare Coins, 3/2005), lot 1677. PCGS# 572035 Base PCGS# 6248

1846 Half Dollar, MS64
6 Over Horizontal 6, WB-104, FS-301
Guide Book and Cherrypickers' Variety



98657 1846 6 Over Horizontal 6, WB-104, FS-301, MS64 NGC. CAC. Peach-orange and olive hues appear in the recesses and legends, complementing lavender-gray patina overall. This near-Gem is fully struck, and small grade-limiting marks are well-hidden beneath the attractive toning. A superlative example of this key *Guide Book* and *Cherrypickers'* variety.

Variety: WB-104, FS-301, R.3. The primary 6 is punched over a horizontal secondary 6, and a diagnostic rim cud occurs below 84 in the date.

Population Data (9/15): For the variety, NGC data show two MS64 examples and two Gems finer. The top submissions at PCGS are four in MS63. This is the sole finest CAC-approved example.

Heritage Commentary: This highly coveted overdate variety is the result of a Mint official erroneously punching the 6 digit horizontally. Recognizing his mistake, the employee corrected it (perhaps "attempted to cover it up" is a better description) by overpunching the 6 vertically, leaving the underlying digit readily apparent. Such occurrences were not uncommon during the tenure of Chief Engraver James B. Longacre, but the blunder is no less baffling.

Provenance: *Wayne S. Rich Collection* (Bowers and Merena, 3/2002), lot 2452. NGC ID# 24H6, PCGS# 409888 Base PCGS# 6254

1846 Tall Date Half Dollar, MS64
Original Golden-Gray and Olive Patina



98658 1846 Tall Date, WB-106, MS64 PCGS. CAC. Original golden-gray and olive tones adorn each side of this well-preserved, satiny near-Gem, melding into amber patina near the obverse peripheries. The right obverse stars are a touch incomplete, and the smooth surfaces show a handful of small milling marks peppered over each side.

Variety: WB-106, Tall, Normal Date. A die crack extends from the rim through the base of the 1, and another connects the base of the rock to the rim and stars 1 and 2. A prominent die break appears on the upper reverse above ATES.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows five MS64 Tall Date grading events and two finer — one each in MS65+ and MS66. The NGC Census lists two in MS64 and five pieces finer.

Heritage Commentary: Over 2 million Seated Liberty half dollars were coined at Philadelphia in 1846. Both Medium and Tall Date variants are known. While the exact production figures remain a mystery, the Medium Date representatives tend to be more available in high grades than their Tall Date counterparts, though both are rare. In their 1993 reference, Wiley and Bugert rated the Medium Date as High R.5 in Mint State versus High R.6 for Uncirculated Tall Date coins.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 6/2005), lot 6249. PCGS# 572045 Base PCGS# 6252

1846-O Medium Date Half Dollar, MS62
Very Rare in Mint Condition



98659 1846-O Medium Date, WB-101, MS62 PCGS. CAC. Die Pair 10, R.3. The strike on this Uncirculated New Orleans half is uncharacteristically bold for the Southern branch mint but is fairly typical of the issue. Lilac, powder-blue, and olive-russet toning adorns the obverse, while the reverse is mostly brilliant with golden-orange patina around the margins. Softly frosted luster enlivens each side, and a few small digs in the reverse fields limit the grade.

Variety: WB-101, Die Pair 10, R.3. The date is positioned left, and the lower edge of the rock is weak. A number of die cracks from the rim through UNI(TED) are diagnostic of Reverse I (the only use of this die). A cud forms in later die states.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports six submissions in MS62, one in MS63, three in MS64, and one in MS65+. NGC shows eight MS62 submissions with four in MS63 (two in MS63+), and one in MS66. These figures are for all Medium Date varieties and likely include a number of resubmissions and crossovers.

Heritage Commentary: The 1846-O is very rare in Mint State. It is unlikely that the population of Uncirculated survivors exceeds 20 pieces, despite a healthy mintage of 2.3 million coins.

Provenance: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (2/2012). PCGS# 572048 Base PCGS# 6255

1846-O Half Dollar, MS64
Medium, Repunched Date
Ex: Eliasberg



98660 1846-O Medium Date, Repunched Date, WB-105, MS64 PCGS. CAC. Die Pair 14, R.3. Ex: Eliasberg. Golden-brown and magenta toning covers both sides of this lustrous near-Gem, lightening to powder-blue at the rims. Die polishing has effaced most of the crack extending through the first four shield verticals. Obverse 5 has a repunched 6, but evidence of repunching has been polished away. Additional cracks occur throughout.

Variety: WB-105, Die Pair 14, R.3. Medium Date. This is the only use of Reverse L, showing a thick die crack bridging two dentils above O(F) down through the eagle's neck. Another prominent die crack extends through the first four shield verticals. Obverse 5 has a repunched 6, but evidence of repunching has been polished away. Additional cracks occur throughout.

Population Data (9/15): Including all varieties, this is one of three near-Gems at PCGS with one MS65+ submission finer. NGC has also seen one Medium Date coin in MS66 but none in MS64 or MS65.

Heritage Commentary: This is only the fifth appearance of this amazing Choice example at public auction in 109 years, having resided in the esteemed collections of Harlan P. Smith, John H. Clapp, and Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. It now adds the Gardner pedigree to its illustrious past. The 1846-O is a relatively available date in most grades. However, Wiley-Bugert rate it Low R.8 in Uncirculated condition, and CoinFacts suggests a survival rate of only 20 Mint State coins. This piece is ranked third on the PCGS Condition Census.

Provenance: Harlan P. Smith Collection (S.H. and H. Chapman, 5/1906); John H. Clapp; Clapp Estate, 1942, to Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; Eliasberg Collection, Part II (Bowers and Merena, 4/1997), lot 1937; Douglas L. Noblet Collection / Rarities Sale (Bowers and Merena, 1/1999), lot 90; Richard Genaitis Collection / Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 10/2001), lot 6959. NGC ID# 24H8, PCGS# 572052 Base PCGS# 6255

1847-O/O Half Dollar, MS64
Rarely Offered Registry Contender



98661 1847-O/O WB-102, MS64 PCGS. CAC. Die Pair 8, R.3. This richly toned near-Gem is well-detailed save for a bit of localized softness on a few of the obverse stars and on the eagle's left (facing) talon. Variegated shades of pearl-gray, sunset-golden, and blue intermingle over each side in varying degrees. Housed in a first-generation PCGS small-size holder.

Variety: WB-102, Die Pair 8, R.3. This is a repunched mintmark variety, though the remnants of the first impression have been effaced by polishing in this late die state. Myriad die cracks encircle the reverse legends. The obverse shows small die lines in the rock along the shield's left edge, and a die crack extends from the dentil below 1 into the field to the rock base.

Population Data (9/15): For the issue, PCGS reports five Choice examples (one in MS64+) with a single MS65 finer. There are four in MS64 at NGC and six finer. This is among four in MS64 with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1847-O does not stand out among early New Orleans Mint half dollars, and its mintage of nearly 2.6 million pieces is comparatively high. However, those factors downplay its true rarity in Choice and better grades. A seldom-offered Registry contender.

Provenance: Denver Signature (Heritage, 8/2006), lot 3324; purchased from Premium Numismatics (11/2006). PCGS# 572058 Base PCGS# 6259

1848-O Seated Half Dollar, MS64
Unlisted WB Variety, Conditionally Rare



98662 1848-O WB-101, MS64 PCGS. Unlisted Die Pair. When this near-Gem is held at an angle under a lamp, the violet-gray patina that dominates each side reveals pleasing shades of antique-gold, lavender, and ice-blue. The reverse motifs are fully detailed, and the obverse is boldly impressed with sharp definition on Liberty's head and foot support. All but star 8 show full centers.

Variety: WB-Unlisted. The obverse has a prominent die lump between 18 in the date that matches none of the obverse dies in Bill Bugert's 2011 New Orleans Half dollar reference. The Bowers and Merena cataloger believed the die chip may be a "faint remnant of a misplaced 1." A die crack through (STAT)ES and light clash marks in the shield suggest this may be Reverse K.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS lists four Choice submissions with three Gems finer. NGC reports five coins in MS64 and one each in MS65 and MS66.

Heritage Commentary: The *Register of Seated Half Dollar Varieties Volume III: New Orleans Branch Mint 1840-O to 1853-O No Arrows* (2011) identifies 13 obverse and 15 reverse dies that were employed to manufacture more than 3.1 million half dollars at the Louisiana facility in 1848. Given the issue's sizeable mintage, it is entirely possible that this is an undocumented variety. An excellent chance for the Seated half specialist to procure an important discovery coin.

Provenance: Boston Rarities Sale (Bowers and Merena, 8/2010), lot 549. PCGS# 572065 Base PCGS# 6261

1848-O Half Dollar, MS65
Impeccable O-Mint No Motto Example
Sole CAC Coin in This Grade



98663 1848-O WB-101, MS65 NGC. CAC. Die Pair 5, R.3. The right obverse is brilliant, while the left obverse and entire reverse offer deep violet, blue, green, and orange patina. The surfaces are well-struck overall, especially for a New Orleans representative; only the stars and the left (facing) claw show faint strike softness. This frosty, minimally abraded Gem has much to offer to Seated half specialists and toning aficionados. Housed in a rare prehologram holder.

Variety: WB-101, Die Pair 5, R.3. Large O mintmark. Pickup points include scattered rust lumps in the right obverse field and a die crack from the rock support through the foot to the dentils. This is the final use of Obverse 2, showing virtually no detail on the base supporting Liberty's foot. A faint die crack joins much of the obverse legends.

Population Data (9/15): This is the only Gem at NGC. PCGS reports three examples in MS65. The only finer piece is an MS66 NGC coin. This is also the only Gem with the CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: A run of nearly 3.2 million half dollars was struck at the New Orleans Mint in 1848. The discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill in California during the same year spurred the gradual withdrawal of half dollars from circulation, as their bullion or melt value began to rise relative to gold. Between 1848 and 1852, the New Orleans Mint produced more than three times the number of half dollars struck at Philadelphia, and the majority of the O-mint coins were sent to the Port of New York, destined for international markets. The 1848-O is rare in all Uncirculated grades and becomes extremely rare at the Gem grade level of this piece.

Provenance: Keusch, Snow, and Del Zorro Collections (American Numismatic Rarities, 11/2008), lot 3622. PCGS# 572065 Base PCGS# 6261

1849 Seated Half Dollar, MS62
Among 10 No Motto Halves
With a Gold CAC Sticker



98664 1849 WB-101, MS62 PCGS. Gold CAC. Light silver-gray patina delicately drapes this splendid half dollar with glints of golden-tan and powder-blue. The surfaces are indisputably high-end for the assigned numeric grade, showing no overly distracting abrasions. The obverse displays sharply struck centers with minor peripheral softness, while the reverse is boldly defined throughout. Two tiny reeding marks on Liberty's left (facing) hand will identify this coin in future appearances.

Variety: WB-101, Normal Date. Most die pairs fall under this attribution.

Population Data (9/15): The PCGS *Population Report* shows nine MS62 submissions and 44 finer. NGC counts seven in this grade with 33 finer. This is the only 1849 with a gold CAC approval sticker and one of 10 such in all grades among all No Motto halves.

Heritage Commentary: CAC believes the quality of this No Motto half dollar exceeds the grade awarded by PCGS, and it is hard to disagree. In fact, even after close examination it is difficult to fathom what kind of perceived issues prevented a higher grade. From a mintage of 1.2 million coins.

Provenance: *Albert W. Savage Sale (Stack's, 10/1997)*, lot 682. NGC ID# 24HE, PCGS# 572069 Base PCGS# 6262



1849/1849 Half Dollar, AU58
Repunched Date, WB-102, FS-301
'One of the True Rarities of the Entire Series'



98665 1849/1849 Repunched Date, WB-102, FS-301, AU58 PCGS. CAC. Partial luster emanates from the design recesses on both sides of this golden-gray near-Mint half dollar. The devices are well-struck with moderate softness on the stars and eagle's leg, and, most importantly, the repunched date is clearly visible without magnification. An original, CAC-approved example with minimal marks for the grade.

Variety: WB-102, FS-301. Remnants of the first date impression are evident northwest of the bases of the primary digits. The lower loop of an errant 9 protrudes from the base between 49.

Population Data (9/15): The population data at PCGS are somewhat misleading, as variety attributions were introduced fairly recently. The service shows one example of this variety each in VG8, VF25, XF40, and AU50. This AU58 submission and an unknown number of additional pieces are certified as mint errors and included in the regular population figures. Similarly, NGC shows one coin each in VF (unspecified), XF45, MS62, and MS64.

Heritage Commentary: The *Cherrypickers' Guide*, fifth edition, comments that this variety "is considered by many to be one of the true rarities of the entire series." Wiley and Bugert rated the issue High R.7 in XF/AU condition and R.8 in Mint State in their *Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Half Dollars* (1993). Walter Breen (1988) wrote that he had seen "fewer than 6," and all but one were in lower grades.

Provenance: Purchased from Harry Laibstain (9/2009). NGC ID# 24HE, PCGS# 409890 Base PCGS# 6262



1855-O Arrows, MS66
Magnificent Multicolor Toning



98666 1855-O Arrows, WB-101, MS66 PCGS. Die Pair 5, R.3. The eye appeal of this incredible Premium Gem undoubtedly rivals that of the finest survivors from this conditionally rare New Orleans issue. Glistening mint luster invigorates surfaces painted in shades of electric-blue, lime-green, lilac, and golden-orange. Each side lacks marks deserving of individual mention, and the strike is sharp on most of the stars with incompleteness relegated to the eagle's left (facing) leg.

Variety: WB-101, Die Pair 5, R.3. A radial die crack runs from the rim near star 9 through Liberty's cap to the right wrist, and another crack from the rim through star 13 into the field. Obverse 5 and Reverse D were only used for this die marriage.

Population Data (9/15): There are five Premium Gems at PCGS and another six MS66 examples at NGC. Only two MS67 coins are finer, both in PCGS holders.

Heritage Commentary: The 1855-O, struck to the extent of nearly 3.7 million coins, is a common date through Choice condition. Gems are conditionally rare, and although they prove more available than other comparably graded contemporary O-mint issues, attractive MS65 examples still command strong prices among collectors of high-end type. The appearance of a Premium Gem at public auction is a noteworthy occasion, and this lot will certainly draw considerable attention when it crosses the block.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (11/1999). PCGS# 572090 Base PCGS# 6283

1855-S Half Dollar, AU58
Introductory San Francisco Issue
One Finer at PCGS



98667 1855-S Arrows, WB-101, AU58 PCGS. CAC. Die Pair 3, R.5. This brilliant near-Mint example exhibits considerable luster in the protected regions with attractive wisps of champagne-gold color. The devices are well-impressed with a bit of friction over the high points, and a few minor handling marks prevent an Uncirculated assessment. Liberty's drapery and the reverse shield verticals are partly effaced from die lapping, as often seen. This is a fantastic introductory S-mint half dollar showing substantial aesthetic appeal.

Variety: WB-101, Die Pair 3, R.5. Two minuscule die lines and clash marks under Liberty's drapery identify the obverse. The reverse shows a small tine under the olive stem with several diagnostic cracks and die lines around the legends.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports four AU58 examples with a single MS64 coin finer. NGC has seen five near-Mint representatives and three finer submissions — one each in MS62, MS63, and MS67. CAC has given the green approval sticker to two in AU58.

Heritage Commentary: The San Francisco Mint struck its first silver issues — quarters and half dollars — in its second year of operation, 1855. The mintage of both denominations was modest — 396,400 quarters and 129,950 halves coined during the year. Survival rates were correspondingly low, and the majority of survivors are found in well-worn grades. With so few Mint State coins certified at the leading grading services, examples finer than this AU58 coin are essentially uncollectible by most standards.

Provenance: Central States Signature (Heritage, 4-5/2009), lot 753; purchased from Legend Numismatics (12/2009). PCGS# 572091 Base PCGS# 6284

**1856 Half Dollar, Splendid MS65
Frosty Luster With Light Golden Shadings
Extremely Rare in Gem Condition**



98668 1856 WB-101, MS65 NGC. CAC. Mostly brilliant surfaces feature light golden shadings and coruscating mint frost, imbuing this Gem with excellent aesthetic appeal. The devices are irregularly struck with incompleteness around the periphery and rather strong detail in the centers. Lightly clashed with two small reeding marks above Liberty's shoulder clasp.

Variety: WB-101. Five obverse dies fall under the WB-101 attribution. This example has a small die lump nearly touching the right side of the 1. It appears similar in size to the lump on the WB-103 Spiked 1 variety, though it is significantly lower on this coin.

Population Data (9/15): There are five and four MS65 representatives at NGC and PCGS respectively, and both firms have seen two finer examples. This is one of two CAC-approved Gems with one MS66 coin finer.

Heritage Commentary: This No Motto Seated half issue is available for a price through lower Uncirculated levels. Choice examples are decidedly rare, and comparable Gems may survive to the extent of perhaps five or six pieces. The four finer examples at NGC and PCGS combined, assuming there are no resubmissions, can realize in excess of five figures when they appear at auction. Appearances are sporadic, however, and half a decade or more may pass before a finer example turns up.

Provenance: Purchased from Bill Nagle (9/2002). PCGS# 572092 Base PCGS# 6287

**1856 Half Dollar, MS65
Prohibitively Rare in Finer Grades**



98669 1856 Spiked 1, WB-103, MS65 NGC. CAC. Dappled lavender and olive patina with powder-blue tints invigorates the luminous, carefully preserved surfaces of this eye-appealing Gem No Motto half. The centers are visible on stars 1 through 6, while the remaining stars are incomplete. Liberty's head and the eagle's plumage feature strong strike definition.

Variety: WB-103, Spiked 1. A small tine of metal is adjacent to the upper-right side of the upright of the 1.

Population Data (9/15): NGC counts five MS65 examples, while PCGS lists four coins in the same grade. Each firm has seen two finer submissions, all WB attributions included.

Heritage Commentary: Randy Wiley and Bill Bugert (1993) believe this variety was caused by the "slip of an engraver's tool during die preparation." In all, 938,000 half dollars were coined at Philadelphia in 1856. The weight reduction imposed in 1853 was successful in stimulating the circulation of subsidiary silver coins by the mid-1850s, and only a small group of examples from this half dollar issue survive in Gem condition.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (12/2009). PCGS# 572094 Base PCGS# 6287

1857 Half Dollar, Violet-Gray Gem
Misplaced Date on the Base, WB-103



98670 1857 Misplaced Date, WB-103, MS65 PCGS. CAC. This Gem offers typically bold strike definition with full stars and sharp detail on Liberty's head, the eagle, and olive leaves. Uniform violet-gray toning covers each well-preserved side, subduing the luster but attesting to the originality of the surfaces.

Variety: WB-103. This variety is attributed by the remnants of two date digits on the rocky base above the 7. A prominent die crack runs from the rim through the base of the 1, and another joins the bottoms of HALF DOL. Rated High R.7 in Mint State.

Population Data (9/15): There are seven MS65 representatives at PCGS (two in MS65+) and 11 at NGC. Each service reports two finer submissions. Those figures include all 1857 half dollar varieties.

Heritage Commentary: The Act of 1857 passed on February 21, and it included several provisions that ushered in sweeping "change" in American numismatics. Among them were the exchange of Spanish silver coins for their equivalent in American subsidiary coins or a percentage of bullion value, and the recoinage of those Spanish denominations into new silver pieces. It is likely that some proportion of silver employed to coin the nearly 2 million half dollars in 1857 was derived from the melted Spanish silver. The 1857 half dollar is scarcely seen in Mint State, and only a handful of Gems are available to satisfy the ever-strong collector demand. This is quite possibly the finest known misplaced date representative extant.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (6/2008). NGC ID# 24HS, PCGS# 572101 Base PCGS# 6290

1858 Half Dollar, MS65
Collectible No Motto Issue



98671 1858 Type One Reverse, WB-101, MS65 PCGS. CAC. This strikingly original Gem displays a pleasing layer of variegated, natural patina across both sides. Vibrant, satiny luster emerges from beneath the rich toning. The design elements are sharply defined, except for the top of Liberty's head and a few of the upper obverse stars. Carefully preserved surfaces show no mentionable marks.

Variety: WB-101, Tail Hub Variety One, Normal Date.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows 15 submissions in MS65, five in MS66, and none finer. At NGC, 13 in MS65, two in MS66 (one MS66 ★), and one MS67 are the finest. This Gem is among six so graded with the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1858 is among the more collectible No Motto issues in the Seated half dollar series with a mintage exceeding 4.2 million coins. This wonderfully original offering would serve as an excellent representative of the type in a high-end Gem set.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 9/2008), lot 2201. PCGS# 572108 Base PCGS# 6293

1858 Half Dollar, MS66
FS-301, Repunched Date
Among the Finest at PCGS



98672 1858 Type One Reverse, Repunched Date, WB-105, FS-301, MS66 PCGS. This magnificent coin boasts vibrant, frosty luster over mostly brilliant surfaces with an arc of deep aqua-blue and golden toning on the upper obverse and lower reverse. A shallow planchet flaw occurs in the lower left obverse field near Liberty's wrist. Remnants of an inverted 1 are visible right of the 5 in the date. A stellar representative of the issue, likely the finest known example of this *Cherry-pickers'* variety.

Variety: WB-105, FS-301. Type One Reverse. Wiley and Bugert explain: "This blundered date appears to have the date repunched over an inverted date. The remnants of an inverted 1 can be seen as two lumps between the 58. Measurements of the distance between the two 'lumps' verify they are the tip of the serif and left base of the 1."

Population Data (9/15): PCGS has seen five MS66 submissions and none finer, while NGC reports two in MS66 (one MS66 ★) with one MS67 finer, all varieties included.

Heritage Commentary: This is a supposedly common date with a mintage in excess of 4.2 million coins. However, Premium Gem examples such as this can only be described as extremely rare.

Consignor Commentary: This is a challenging variety (R.7+ in Mint State), and it is one of just five coins graded at this level by PCGS with none higher. The toning is fine and the strike is strong. The reverse seems perfect, although the die is lightly clashed.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (*Heritage*, 9/2005), lot 3226; purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (11/2010). PCGS# 413724 Base PCGS# 6293

1858-S Half Dollar, MS64
Extremely Rare in This High Grade



98673 1858-S Large S, WB-101, MS64 PCGS. Die Pair 10, R.3. Frosty mint luster radiates from beneath golden-russet patina intermingled with occasional glimpses of iridescent violet. Liberty's head, the eagle's feathers, claws, and olive leaves all show needle-sharp detail, and strike softness is limited to the upper stars. The only mentionable marks include a small tick on Liberty's upper left (facing) arm and another in the left reverse field above the eagle's wing.

Variety: WB-101, Die Pair 10, R.3. The obverse displays a low date and stars 5, 7, 8, and 10 recut. The Large S mintmark and diagonal die lines in the lower reverse shield further attribute the variety.

Population Data (9/15): This near-Gem coin is tied with three other submissions at PCGS, and two are finer — one each in MS65 and MS66. NGC shows one example in MS64 along with three MS65 and one MS66 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Randy Wiley and Bill Bugert identified 14 die marriages used to strike 476,000 half dollars at the San Francisco Mint in 1858. This issue's mintage is significantly smaller than those of the Philadelphia and New Orleans facilities, and the vast majority of coins saw extensive circulation. The 1858-S is available in lower circulated grades, while survivors in XF and AU condition are scarce. Just 40 pieces are believed to survive in Mint State. The two leading grading firms only report 28 Uncirculated coins, likely including several resubmissions. This Choice representative is a fantastic condition rarity that Seated specialists should strongly consider.

Provenance: Lindesmith Collection (*Bowers and Merena*, 3/2000), lot 601. PCGS# 572125 Base PCGS# 6295

1858-S Half Dollar, MS65
West Coast Condition Rarity
One Finer at NGC



98674 1858-S Large S, WB-101, MS65 NGC. Die Pair 10, R.3. This lightly toned Gem is draped in mottled lilac toning, complementing occasional splashes of russet on the obverse. There are few grade-limiting marks beneath the attractive color, the only mentionable distraction being a faint zigzag pinscratch to the left of star 12. Condition Census quality.

Variety: WB-101, Die Pair 10, R.3. The date is centered and low, stars 5, 7, 8, and 10 are recut, and the Large S mintmark is positioned high over the F in HALF. A faint die crack connects RI in AMERICA.

Population Data (9/15): NGC and PCGS report three submissions and a single one in MS65, respectively, and each firm reports a lone MS66 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Gene Gardner took particular interest in Seated Liberty coinage, and his eye for technical quality and visual appeal is reflected in each of the three Uncirculated 1858-S halves he managed to obtain over the years. The 1858-S claims a mintage of 476,000 coins, and Mint State survivors are exceedingly rare. In addition to this important Gem offering, the Gardner Collection included an MS64 representative (also in this sale) and the sole finest PCGS example, boasting the incomparable grade of MS66. That coin sold in October 2014 during Heritage's second Gardner sale, realizing \$32,900 with the buyer's premium.

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2005), lot 7307. PCGS# 572125 Base PCGS# 6295

1860-S Large S Half Dollar, MS63
Frosty, Minimally Marked Surfaces
Among the Scarcest 1860s Issues



98675 1860-S Large S, WB-101, MS63 PCGS. CAC. Die Pair 1, R.3. Lustrous and crisply impressed throughout, the surfaces are toned in rich medium shades of gray, golden-tan, rose, and lilac with strong underlying mint frost. The original patination conceals most of the small, grade-limiting abrasions.

Variety: WB-101, Die Pair 1, R.3. The Large S mintmark is centered below the junction of the olive stem and the tail feather. The date is positioned further left than on Obverse 2.

Population Data (9/15): For all varieties, PCGS shows 10 Select pieces and 10 submissions finer, while NGC reports nine coins in MS63 and five finer. This is the sole example in this grade with the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: Even though 472,000 halves were produced in San Francisco in 1860, virtually all of the coins struck entered the channels of commerce and stayed there, making Mint State pieces rare in today's market. According to Ron Guth, the 1860-S is "the scarcest date from the 1860s with the exception of the 1866-S No Motto."

Provenance: Purchased directly from Heritage (2/2004). PCGS# 572142 Base PCGS# 6301

1863-S Seated Half Dollar, MS64
One Finer at PCGS, Tied for Finest CAC



98676 1863-S Small Broken S, WB-102, MS64 PCGS. CAC. Die Pair 3, R.3. Splashes of orange, violet, and slate-gray toning cover the lustrous surfaces of this near-Gem half dollar, and the design elements show particularly strong detail on the reverse. A couple of trivial, well-concealed marks preclude an even higher grade.

Variety: WB-102, Die Pair 3, R.3. There is a small die lump inside the base of the shield just above the point, and light clash marks appear inside Liberty's right (facing) forearm. The Small S mintmark has a partially broken upper loop.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 18 MS64 submissions (two in MS64+) with a single MS65 finer. There are 10 near-Gems at NGC and three finer — two MS65 and one MS66. This MS64 piece is among two with the CAC green approval, and that service has seen none finer.

Heritage Commentary: Silver subsidiary coins continued to circulate on the West Coast despite the Civil War's effect on the hoarding of silver and gold in the East. Surviving 1863-S halves, from a mintage of 916,000 pieces, are generally found with some degree of wear. Uncirculated examples are scarce, and near-Gems such as this CAC-endorsed coin are about the highest-graded representatives available to most collectors.

Provenance: FUN Signature (*Heritage*, 1/2008), lot 1562. PCGS# 572157 Base PCGS# 6310

1864 Half Dollar, MS66
Repunched Date, Swirling Mint Frost



98677 1864 Repunched Date, WB-102, MS66 PCGS. Light russet and blue rim toning frames golden-gray centers on each side of this Premium Gem half dollar. Swirling mint frost illuminates immaculately preserved surfaces with fully struck design motifs. A few minor marks are visible only on close inspection and do not detract in the slightest.

Variety: WB-102. Repunching is evident on the base of the 1 and the crossbar of the 4. A thin die crack runs along the outer edge of the reverse legends. Light clash marks appear throughout. Wiley-Bugert rate this die marriage High R.6 in Mint State.

Population Data (9/15): This coin is tied with one other Premium Gem at PCGS, and three in MS67 are finer. NGC reports three each in MS66 and MS67 and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: Silver and gold denominations were scarcely seen after spring 1862. The uncertainties of the Civil War and, more tangibly, the various forms of paper money (e.g. greenbacks and fractional currency) and private tokens that entered the channels of commerce drove most metals out of circulation. Half dollar production at Philadelphia dropped slightly to 379,100 coins plus 470 proofs in 1864. The survival of many Uncirculated Philadelphia half dollars dated 1859 to 1865 is attributable to a large hoard discovered in Guatemala around 1956, per Breen's *Encyclopedia*. However, many cache coins were harshly cleaned with an abrasive. The unaltered surfaces and absence of heavy bagmarks indicate this Premium Gem likely remained stateside through the war and was possibly kept as a memento of that defining period in American history.

Provenance: Purchased directly from Bowers and Merena (1/2001). PCGS# 572159 Base PCGS# 6311

1865 Half Dollar, Sharp MS66
Tied for Second on the Condition Census



98678 1865 WB-101, MS66 NGC. This Premium Gem 1865 Seated half, the final date among P-mint No Motto coins, boasts pinpoint-sharp detail with the only area of softness over the eagle's leg. Dusky violet and blue tones embrace each side, accented by occasional apricot-orange tints. A partly reflective, virtually pristine example.

Variety: WB-101. The attribution comprises several minor date placement variants with no major doubling or recutting.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of two Premium Gems at NGC. There are six MS66 submissions at PCGS (one MS66+). The sole finest example is an MS67 NGC piece, which also sports the Gardner pedigree.

Heritage Commentary: For those who were unable to acquire the single finest example of this Philadelphia issue offered during Part III of the Gardner Collection, this is another rare opportunity to procure the next best thing, as that piece may remain tightly held for years to come. The present example is tied for second place on the Condition Census, and we expect to see strong bidding from Registry Set enthusiasts for this delightful Premium Gem.

Provenance: Purchased from Park Avenue Numismatics (5/2003). NGC ID# 24JF, PCGS# 572164 Base PCGS# 6313

1865-S Half Dollar, MS64
Virtually Unimprovable Condition Rarity



98679 1865-S Small Wide Broken S, WB-101, MS64 PCGS. The strike is sharply defined on the central devices, but some of the obverse stars are a tad softly impressed. Original, frosty luster provides this virtually unimprovable coin significant eye appeal and enhances the uniform golden-gray toning that covers each side.

Variety: WB-101, Die Pair 1, R.6. Small Wide Broken S mintmark. The dies are in a later state with diagnostic cracks through the rock support and stars on the obverse, and the reverse legends. This is the final use of the the Small S mintmark in the Seated half dollar series. The 1993 Wiley-Bugert reference rates the WB-101 variety R.8 in Mint State.

Population Data (9/15): Including all Wiley-Bugert varieties, PCGS shows 15 near-Gems, while NGC reports 12 comparably graded examples. Each firm has seen one submission finer. Resubmissions and crossovers undoubtedly inflate the published certification totals.

Heritage Commentary: Struck to the extent of 675,000 pieces, the 1865-S is an acknowledged condition rarity in the series. Most of the coins circulated heavily in the Western states, and few were specifically saved for numismatic purposes. Aside from cleaned XF-AU examples from the Guatemala Hoard, the issue is seldom seen in high grades, especially Choice condition or finer.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 9/2004), lot 6658; Anaheim Auction (Bowers and Merena, 5/2006), lot 1126. PCGS# 572167 Base PCGS# 6314

1866 Motto Half Dollar, MS66
Frosty, Brilliant Surfaces



98680 1866 Motto, WB-101, MS66 PCGS. CAC. Radiant brilliance and vibrant frosty luster are defining characteristics of this remarkably preserved Premium Gem. Razor-sharp detail is another redeeming feature. The slightest trace of strike incompleteness is confined to the eagle's left leg. Nearly pristine with intermittent khaki-tan tints.

Variety: WB-101. This is the usually seen variety with a normal date. Thin, spindly die cracks appear on each side.

Population Data (9/15): There is one other Premium Gem at PCGS with a paltry two higher-graded submissions. NGC has seen four in MS66 and three finer — one each in MS67, MS67 ★, and MS68. This coin is tied with one other piece for finest with a CAC sticker.

Heritage Commentary: While the addition of a motto had been proposed as early as 1861 and was first put in place on the two cent coins of 1864, IN GOD WE TRUST only appeared on quarters, half dollars, and gold coinage in 1866. Given the issue's extreme rarity in Premium Gem condition, this piece will surely be a highlight in any advanced Seated half set.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (6/2001). PCGS# 572171 Base PCGS# 6319

1866-S Motto Half Dollar, Original Gem
Doubled Die Reverse, WB-104
Among Two Top Examples at PCGS



98681 1866-S Motto, Doubled Die Reverse, WB-104, MS65 PCGS. CAC. Die Pair 3, R.3. The eye appeal and overt originality of this Gem 1866-S Motto half dollar are, without a doubt, among its most admirable qualities. Peripheral blushes of golden-orange, lavender, and ice-blue patina cede to largely brilliant centers with frosty luster rolling over the well-preserved surfaces. Boldly rendered with minor softness at the upper obverse. Housed in a green label holder with the green CAC approval.

Variety: WB-104, Die Pair 3, R.3. This doubled die reverse variety shows clear doubling on TRUST, the eagle's upper right wing, and the horizontal shield lines. Both sides are struck from shattered dies and show extensive die cracks and clash marks. Wiley-Bugert rate this die pair Low R.8 in Mint State.

Population Data (9/15): This coin is tied for finest at PCGS with one other Gem submission. NGC shows six MS65 grading events and one coin in MS66. Of those, this is the only one with a CAC endorsement and is, in fact, the sole Mint State example of this issue with a CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: Reverse half dollar dies bearing the newly authorized motto IN GOD WE TRUST only reached the San Francisco Mint in May 1866 — the result of transportation delays. A small quantity of 60,000 1866-S No Motto halves was coined within the first five months of the year to satisfy commercial demand, and the California facility struck another 994,000 Motto half dollars after receiving the proper dies. The 1866-S Motto is significantly more available in circulated grades, but the two San Francisco issues are nearly equally rare in Gem condition or better. Remarkably, this coin has remained atop the PCGS Condition Census for more than 15 years.

Provenance: Douglas L. Noblet Collection / Rarities Sale (Bowers and Merena, 1/1999), lot 148; George "Buddy" Byers Collection (Stack's, 10/2006), lot 1221; purchased from Legend Numismatics (7/2007). NGC ID# 27SY, PCGS# 572176 Base PCGS# 6320

**1867 Half Dollar, Strong MS65
Worthy of a Premium Bid**



98682 1867 WB-101, MS65 PCGS. This splendid Gem displays intense blue, green, and gold tones over each side amid flashes of glimmering luster beneath the attractive antique patina. Two small reeding marks in the right obverse field adjacent to Liberty's arm identify this coin but fail to diminish its broad appeal. The strike falls just short of full, showing a touch of incompleteness on the tailfeathers and olive leaves. Housed in an old green label holder.

Variety: WB-101. Date placement variations exist within this category, but there are no major repunching varieties.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of 17 Gem submissions at PCGS, while NGC reports a single coin in the same grade. Finer examples include two in MS66 and one MS68, all in PCGS holders.

Heritage Commentary: CoinFacts pegs the Mint State survivorship of this conditionally rare issue at 35 examples from a mintage of 449,300 coins. Gems seldom appear at auction, and they have realized well in excess of five figures on more than one occasion. With its phenomenal eye appeal, bold strike, and smooth surfaces, this high-end MS65 representative is surely worthy of a premium bid.

Gene Gardner also owned MS66 and MS68 PCGS examples of this issue. The MS66 coin is included in the present auction. The MS68 piece was lot 98506 in our Gardner Part II Signature (Heritage, 10/2014), where it realized \$55,813.

Provenance: Benson Collection, Part III (Goldberg Auctions, 2/2003), lot 560. PCGS# 572177 Base PCGS# 6321

**1867 Half Dollar, Richly Toned MS66
Extremely Rare So Well-Preserved**



98683 1867 WB-101, MS66 PCGS. CAC. The surfaces are richly toned in reddish-golden color. The surfaces are strongly struck with a couple of tiny milling marks in the right obverse field, mentioned for pedigree purposes only. Parallel striations from the draw bench run northwest to southeast across the obverse.

Variety: WB-101, normal date. A thin die crack extends from Liberty's head to star 8, terminating just above the tip of the cap.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS lists two Premium Gems and a single coin in MS68. The finest example at NGC is a sole MS65 submission.

Heritage Commentary: Seldom does an 1867 Seated half dollar appear at auction with surfaces as smooth and eye appeal as compelling as this Premium Gem. In fact, this is just the third time we have offered an MS66 example since we began keeping records in 1993. Heritage has also had the pleasure of handling the single finest MS68 PCGS example, sold as lot 98506 in the Eugene H. Gardner Collection, Part II in October 2014. Considering that coin's importance as one of the finest surviving pre-1879 Seated halves, we would be surprised if it reappeared at auction anytime soon, making this the finest example available to Registry collectors and Seated half enthusiasts.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 1/2004), lot 5918. PCGS# 572177 Base PCGS# 6321

1867-S/S Half Dollar, MS64
One Example Finer at PCGS



98684 1867-S/S Repunched Mintmark, WB-103, MS64 PCGS.

Lavender and orange hues provide the only indication of color on this otherwise brilliant Choice 1867-S half dollar. The devices are well-struck, including the eagle's claws, legs, and fletchings, although the upper stars and Liberty's head are softly detailed. A few small ticks show on Liberty's left (facing) arm, but the fields are clean overall.

Variety: WB-103, Die Pair 3, R.3. A die crack runs from the rock through Liberty's foot to the rim. Stars 1 to 6 and 10 to 13 are recut. The reverse shows a heavy die line above TE in STATES and two thinner die lines below the eagle's left wing. The mintmark is lightly recut. Rated Low R.8 in Mint State.

Population Data (9/15): For all varieties, PCGS reports two submitted in MS64 and one MS66 finer. NGC show one Choice coin and six Gems finer.

Heritage Commentary: The discrepancy between Philadelphia and San Francisco half dollar mintages in 1867 is significant. Only 449,300 coins were struck in the East, while more than 1.1 million halves were manufactured in the West. Silver and gold were still widely hoarded in the Atlantic states following the Civil War, where \$132 to \$146 in paper money was required to purchase \$100 in metallic coinage in 1867. Conversely, Westerners rarely accepted paper currency aside from gold-backed national banknotes, and silver continued to serve as the primary method of exchange. As such, survivors are rare in Mint State.

Provenance: Purchased from *Legend Numismatics* (1/2004). PCGS# 572181 Base PCGS# 6322

1869-S Half Dollar, Brilliant Premium Gem
Virtually Unimprovable Quality



98685 1869-S WB-101, MS66 NGC. CAC. Die Pair 2, R.3.

The surfaces of this Premium Gem Seated half are almost completely brilliant, exhibiting coruscating mint frost over each side. Small specks of olive-tan toning are peppered around the obverse. The strongly struck design motifs show faint incompleteness on the stars. As one would expect of a coin in this impressive grade, there is a near-total lack of noticeable abrasions.

Variety: WB-101, Die Pair 2, R.3. There appears to be an errant digit in Liberty's gown above the 6. Additional diagnostics include a small horizontal die line above the ribbon at the lower left of the shield, die lines below (H)ALF, and the mintmark placement. The reverse is lightly clashed.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports three grading events in MS66 and one MS67. PCGS shows two in MS65 and one MS67. This MS66 and the sole MS67 are the finest with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: Half dollar mintages were perennially high at the San Francisco Mint throughout the 1860s. Per Neil Carothers' *Fractional Money* (1930): "Half-dollars preponderated in the San Francisco coinage, as this denomination was most desirable for export." The coins circulated domestically, too, and S-mint halves are extremely rare in this high grade.

Provenance: Purchased from RARCOA (5/2001). PCGS# 572187 Base PCGS# 6326

1870 Half Dollar, MS65+
Colorful Old-Time Collector Coin



98686 1870 WB-101, MS65+ NGC. Shimmering frost radiates through pastel shades of blue, violet, and gold. The stars and Liberty's head show razor-sharp definition, while the eagle's left claw is a touch incomplete. Parallel horizontal roller marks appear over the central motifs on each side. This is a must-have representative for fans of original multicolor toning.

Variety: WB-101. This attribution includes six normal date obverse varieties.

Population Data (9/15): Each service shows three coins in MS65 with one submission finer. This is the only Gem at NGC with a Plus designation.

Heritage Commentary: The Stack's Bowers cataloger remarked in November 2011: "A wonderfully fresh gem 1870 half dollar, which like the rest of the coins from the George Dyer Collection [was] housed in an old collector's cabinet for not years or decades, but generations." Dyer assembled his set between 1910 and 1930.

Provenance: George Dyer Collection / Baltimore Auction (Stack's Bowers, 11/2011), lot 2356. PCGS# 572188 Base PCGS# 6327

1870 Half Dollar, MS65
Frosty With Splendid Rim Toning
Sole Gem at CAC



98687 1870 WB-101, MS65 PCGS. CAC. Brilliant interiors turn to concentric bands of russet, violet, blue, and green at the margins, giving each thickly frosted and boldly struck side a tremendous amount of aesthetic appeal. A few tiny flecks are scattered throughout, essentially invisible to the unaided eye. A small graze through the horizontal shield lines on the obverse is the only mentionable blemish.

Variety: WB-101, normal date with no recutting on the 1.

Population Data (9/15): There are three Gems apiece at PCGS and NGC (one MS65+), and each firm reports one MS67 submission. This is the sole CAC example in this grade.

Heritage Commentary: The Mint struck 633,900 Seated halves in 1870, but like other Philadelphia issues from this period, high-grade survivors are scant. Most coins were either exported or undistributed and converted into silver bullion.

Consignor Commentary: A wonderful coin from the Lawrence Gardner (Buffalo and Erie Historical Society) collection. There is some light album toning all around the rims on both sides, and the coin is fully lustrous. I rate it strong for the grade. The fields are completely free from any hairlines. Each service has come up with one MS67, but I bet this coin would give all of them a good run for their money.

Provenance: Buffalo and Erie Historical Society Collection (Stack's, 3/2005), lot 226. PCGS# 572188 Base PCGS# 6327

1871-CC Half Dollar, MS62
Repunched Date, So-Called 'One-Sided Proof'
One of the Finest Examples of This Key Issue



98688 1871-CC Repunched Date, WB-102, MS62 PCGS. CAC. Die Pair 3, R.6. The distinctly prooflike obverse features frosty motifs that contrast markedly against the mirrored fields, while the reverse is highly lustrous with limited reflectivity. Light golden-gray patina delicately drapes mostly brilliant surfaces, and each side is devoid of any overly distracting abrasions. Wispy grade-defining marks occur throughout, and a thin streak of struck-in grease on the reverse will attribute this coin in future appearances.

Variety: WB-102, Die Pair 3, R.6. The so-called "One Sided Proof" variety. The last two digits in the date are recut, most noticeably under the flag of the 1. Prominent clash marks and die cracks appear around the reverse. The prooflike obverse is highly reflective, hence this coveted variety's tantalizing nickname.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS and NGC each show one MS62 example. The single finest is an MS64 PCGS coin. This is the sole MS62 with the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: Despite the prooflike obverse, there is no evidence to suggest that the die was specifically prepared as a branch mint proof. Wiley and Bugert (1993) wrote of another Mint State Condition Census example: "We don't know if it qualifies as a branch mint proof. The obverse is fully prooflike and the rim is fairly sharp and square. However, the head die was also heavily polished to remove signs of repunching, and the tail die has been identified as being left over from 1870 when it had already developed a crack through the middle of MER." Only 153,950 half dollars were minted at Carson City in 1871. Nearly the entire production was thrust into circulation, but luckily a handful of pieces were preserved in Mint State. Of the estimated five Uncirculated survivors, few possess the eye appeal of this marvelous example, the only one with a CAC approval sticker.

Provenance: Kennywood Collection (*American Numismatic Rareities*, 1/2005), lot 578. PCGS# 572197 Base PCGS# 6331

1872 Half Dollar, MS65
Condition Rarity With CAC Approval
Former Generation NGC Holder



98689 1872 WB-101, MS65 NGC. CAC. Toned primarily in dusky golden-gray patina, the surfaces feature colorful orange, blue, and purple accents with radiant frosty luster percolating through the eye-appealing patina. The design elements are boldly defined, and inconsequential softness is limited to stars 12 and 13. Housed in a former generation holder.

Variety: WB-101. Randy Wiley and Bill Bugert have identified six obverse dies categorized under this variety, all with slightly varying date placements.

Population Data (9/15): Two Gems and three Premium Gems are the finest at NGC, while PCGS reports four coins in MS65 with five MS66 submissions finer. This is the lone Gem with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: Specie payments were still suspended in 1872, sustaining the premium at which silver coins traded for paper currency. The Philadelphia Mint managed a production of 880,600 half dollars in that year, mostly for export to Latin America. Those coins that did remain stateside were likely melted after the passage of the Coinage Act of 1873, rendering the 1872 scarce in all grades and rare in Mint State. Probably only 10 or so pieces survive in Gem condition or better.

Provenance: *Baltimore Auction (Bowers and Merena, 11/2007)*, lot 2296. PCGS# 572201 Base PCGS# 6333

1872-S Half Dollar, MS66
Condition Census Example



98690 1872-S Medium Small S, WB-102, MS66 NGC. Die Pair 3, R.3. The surfaces offer a medley of silver-gray and rose patina with strong underlying mint frost typical of the West Coast branch mint. Another indication of this Premium Gem's origin is the sharp strike, particularly on the stars, Liberty's head, and the eagle's claws. Microscopic ticks and grazes are scattered in the fields, scarcely discernible without a loupe.

Variety: WB-102, Die Pair 3, R.3. The Medium Small S mintmark is low above D(OL). A die crack joins (UNIT)ED ST(ATES). Stars 2 to 4, 6, and 9 to 13 are recut.

Population Data (9/15): Including all varieties, two MS66 submissions are tied atop the NGC *Census*. The finest at PCGS is a single MS66+ coin.

Heritage Commentary: The 1872-S (580,000 coins) has one of the lowest mintages among San Francisco No Motto Seated halves after the 1873-S and 1874-S Arrows issues, and the key 1878-S. The issue is scarce in any grade and becomes conditionally rare in Mint State. As one of the three finest examples extant, this Premium Gem is surely destined for a top-notch set.

Provenance: *Internet Auction (Heritage, 4/2002)*, lot 15222. PCGS# 572205 Base PCGS# 6335

1873 Small Arrows Half Dollar, MS65
Exceptional Type Coin
From the Jack Lee Collection



98691 1873 Small Arrows, WB-107, MS65 PCGS. Delicate toning at the upper obverse shows flecks of red-violet and blue, while the balance of the coin is brilliant with light golden-orange patina near the rims. The obverse strike is full, showing sharp detail on the stars and Liberty's portrait; the only area of minor weakness is over the eagle's claws. A conditionally rare type coin that will be difficult to upgrade.

Variety: WB-107. This variety shows small arrows at each side of the date. Rated high R.6 in Mint State according to *The Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Half Dollars* (1993).

Population Data (9/15): PCGS has seen 11 Gems with four finer pieces, while NGC reports six in MS65 (one MS65+) and three submissions finer. This includes all varieties and likely several resubmissions.

Heritage Commentary: This Philadelphia issue (1.8 million coins minted) is readily available in all circulated grades and obtainable for a price through near-Gem condition. However, the 1873 is conditionally rare in full Gem grades. This particular coin also excels for its eye appeal and bold strike.

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2005), lot 30220; Jack Lee Collection, Part III / Dallas Signature (Heritage, 11/2005), lot 2141; Rarities Sale (Bowers and Merena, 1/2010), lot 383. PCGS# 572212 Base PCGS# 6343

1874 Large Arrows Half Dollar
Splendidly Original Gem
Among Three So Graded With CAC Approval



98692 1874 Large Arrows, WB-102, MS65 PCGS. CAC. Layers of rich golden-russet, olive, blue, and violet toning color this splendidly original Gem. The devices are well brought up, and the only apparent blemish is a small linear depression on Liberty's left thigh.

Variety: WB-102, Large Arrows at date. Two prominent die lines appear above OF.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows 17 coins in MS65 and five submissions finer. NGC reports similar certification figures, 12 Gems and only four finer examples. This piece is among three in MS65 with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1874 Arrows half dollar claims the highest mintage among issues of this type. More than 2.3 million pieces were struck, compared to 59,000 coins and 394,000 examples produced at Carson City and San Francisco, respectively, in the same year. The average certified grade falls between AU50 and AU55, meaning this Gem rates over 10 points higher than the typically seen representative.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (12/2009). NGC ID# 24LA, PCGS# 572219 Base PCGS# 6346

1874-CC Arrows Half Dollar, MS64 In-Demand Carson City Semikey



98693 1874-CC Arrows, WB-101, MS64 PCGS. Die Pair 3, R.4. Each side of this Choice semikey Carson City half dollar offers shimmering satin luster beneath golden-gray patina with complementary olive, russet, and violet elements. The 1874-CC Arrows typically comes well-struck, and this sharp example lives up to the issue's reputation. The lower obverse and corresponding area on the reverse show faint roller marks, while scattered abrasions are few and far between.

Variety: WB-101, Die Pair 3, R.4. This is the most frequently encountered die pair for the issue, showing a die lump on Liberty's right forearm below the curls, die lines through ES in STATES, and a raised die defect above the eagle's head.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS and NGC each report three Choice grading events. PCGS reports one each in MS65 and MS66 finer; NGC data show one MS65 ★ finer.

Heritage Commentary: The Coinage Act of 1873 abolished the standard silver dollar, the three cent silver piece, and the silver half dime, and established the Trade dollar for international exchange. It further stipulated a minute increase in the weight of minor silver coins, which Breen (1988) described as "nothing but a paper complication." The weight change was imperceptible and actually fell within the tolerated weight deviation of 0.2 gm, meaning older underweight planchets could still be used. Nevertheless, arrows were added flanking the date to distinguish the supposedly "heavier" coins, as had been done from 1853 to 1855, when the weight of minor silver coins was reduced.

Carson City's half dollar output amounted to a paltry 59,000 coins in 1874. Nevada branch mint coins circulated extensively in the West, and few collectors at the time had any interest in collecting by mintmark. The result is an 1874-CC half dollar issue that is extremely scarce in all grades and very rare in Mint State. With comparably graded examples formerly housed in the renowned collections of Eliasberg and Norweb, the presence of a Choice example in any set is the mark of an advanced specialist.

Provenance: Wayne S. Rich Collection (Bowers and Merena, 3/2002), lot 2492. PCGS# 572221 Base PCGS# 6347

**1875 Seated Half Dollar, MS65
Ideal With Motto Type Coin**



98694 1875 WB-101, MS65 PCGS. Light silver-gray with blushes of golden-orange iridescence, this beautifully frosted Gem is fully struck and minimally marked. Two small reeding marks on Liberty's torso and left thigh serve as pedigree identifiers.

Variety: WB-101. This is the only attribution category for the date; no major varieties have been identified.

Population Data (9/15): There are 14 Gems at PCGS (one in MS65+) with five finer examples. NGC shows 11 MS65 grading events and six submissions finer — five in MS66, one in MS67.

Heritage Commentary: With a mintage exceeding 6 million coins, the 1875 Philadelphia half dollar is among the most available issues in the entire Seated series. The date is well-represented in type sets, and this Condition Census example would be a perfect candidate for inclusion in such a collection.

Consignor Commentary: I am amazed that this issue is rated R.3. The date is available through Gem condition, and it is simply a matter of finding one with the eye appeal you seek. This is a pretty coin, and the obverse die has started to break down with a crack linking almost all the stars.

Provenance: Purchased from Bill Caldwell at Northeast Numismatics (10/2007). PCGS# 572226 Base PCGS# 6349

**1875-CC Half Dollar, MS64
Repunched Mintmark, Rarely Seen Finer**



98695 1875-CC Repunched Mintmark, WB-102, MS64 PCGS. CAC. Die Pair 7, R.4. A layer of dusky violet and golden-gray patina blankets the softly lustrous surfaces, hiding many of the small, scattered ticks that prevent a Gem assessment. Liberty's head and the rock support below the foot are a touch soft, while the remaining devices exhibit bold definition.

Variety: WB-102, Die Pair 7, R.4. The first C in the widely spaced mintmark is repunched north. Die lumps occur right of (AMERIC) A, and another lump appears in the second upper-left recessed area in the shield.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows 27 grading events in MS64 with seven finer, while NGC reports 19 Choice examples and five coins finer. The finest certified are one each in MS66 at NGC and PCGS, the latter also showing one MS66+.

Heritage Commentary: The Specie Resumption Act of 1875 mandated that the Treasury Secretary strike subsidiary silver coins in exchange for fractional currency with the goal of withdrawing \$40 million in fractional notes from circulation. The move was risky: A rise in the price of silver or a decline in the value of greenbacks (used to purchase silver bullion) would result in a significant financial loss incurred by the government. The public could then redeem the fractional notes for silver coins and sell them to bullion dealers, who would melt them and sell the silver back to the Mint for a profit. When the value of the greenbacks fell shortly after the bill was passed, the Treasury continued to purchase silver for coinage, but it did not exchange the coins for fractional notes. Instead, they piled up in vaults, explaining the high mintage of the 1875-CC (and other 1875 issues) and its relative availability through Choice condition. Finer examples are very rare and out of reach for most collectors.

Provenance: 67th Anniversary Sale (Stack's, 10/2002), lot 662. PCGS# 572228 Base PCGS# 6350

1875-S Half Dollar, MS66
Excellent Type Coin or Registry Candidate



98696 1875-S Very Small S, WB-101, MS66 PCGS. CAC. Unlisted Die Pair. Intermixed powder-blue and golden-tan colors dominate each side, while lighter shades of lilac and olive-green complement the primary hues. The design features are mostly well-struck, though heavy die polishing has weakened the olive leaves and lower portion of the eagle. Blatantly original and immensely appealing.

Variety: WB-101, Die Pair Unlisted. Very Small S mintmark. The far-right date placement matches that of Obverse 8, but other diagnostics are missing. A small die lump, possibly an errant digit, is on the base above the 7. The reverse is heavily cracked and clashed.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS and NGC show 21 and 11 coins in MS66, respectively (one each in MS66+). There is one finer submission in MS67 at each firm. CAC shows eight in this grade with the green approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: A mintage of 3.2 million coins and a high survival rate make this an available issue in most grades, but coins as clean as this Premium Gem are noteworthy rarities. An excellent type example or Registry candidate.

Consignor Commentary: After diligent searching, none of the 22 die pairs identified in Bill Bugert's new monograph appeared to match this coin. I concluded this may turn out to be a 23rd. The most intriguing features are a series of die breaks that almost circumnavigate the reverse. The die has been heavily polished, so much so that the eagle's left claw appears detached from its leg. Another die break completely shears off the outer half of the lower leaf of the two leaves pointing farthest to the left. It seems like even the most common of dates can fully command a numismatist's attention.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (6/2004). PCGS# 572229 Base PCGS# 6351

1875-S Half Dollar, MS64
Scarce Small Wide S Mintmark



98697 1875-S Small Wide S, WB-104, MS64 PCGS. Die Pair 2, R.4. The central obverse exhibits blended shades of orange, blue, and lavender surrounded by golden-gray patina, while the reverse shows splashes of orange-tan coloration. Sharply detailed, save for minor softness on Liberty's head. Minimally scattered abrasions are well-concealed and undistracting.

Variety: WB-104, Die Pair 2, R.4. Small Wide S. This is a late die state of Obverse 2 with a die crack along the base of the date digits, additional cracks around the periphery, and clash marks in the drapery. Reverse B has die cracks through (TR)UST and (STATE)S OF AM(ERICA). Bill Bugert notes that this "is a scarce variety."

Population Data (9/15): Several dozen examples each at PCGS and NGC are finer than this near-Gem.

Heritage Commentary: More than 10.2 million half dollars were struck at all three mints in 1875 (3.2 million at San Francisco), representing one of the largest single-year combined mintages to that point. The coins were stored in Treasury vaults in preparation for the resumption of specie payments, but storage capacity was limited. The 1875 *Mint Director's Report* noted: "The experience of the last year has demonstrated the insufficiency of the facilities of the Treasury and its offices for the convenient and safe storage of coin, particularly in the Western States, and more silver coin has of late been retained in the custody of the mints that could be properly cared for."

Provenance: Purchased from Rare Coins of New Hampshire (3/2007). PCGS# 572232 Base PCGS# 6351

**1876 Half Dollar, Sharp MS66
Extreme Conditional Rarity**



98698 1876 Open Bud, WB-101, MS66 NGC. CAC. Softly frosted luster shines through light lavender and golden patina, while the interior portion of the reverse maintains its brilliance. The devices are fully struck throughout this Premium Gem, and the surfaces are carefully preserved with trivial flecks on Liberty's left elbow and the lower reverse shield.

Variety: WB-101, with a Type One, Open Bud reverse. A thin die crack connects the obverse stars, and a prominent die break encircles most of the reverse legends.

Population Data (9/15): There are only two other Premium Gems at NGC and a single MS66 at PCGS. Each firm shows one MS67 finer. Three in MS66 have the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: The mid- to late 1870s were characterized by a complex set of factors affecting the dominant mediums of exchange in circulation. The Comstock Lode and falling silver prices inspired a push for the resumption of specie payments and the withdrawal of fractional currency, hence the high silver coin mintages of the era. At the same time, large inflows of U.S. silver from abroad reduced the number of newly minted coins being paid out from the Treasury vaults. Instead, many half dollars from 1875-1877 were released during the 1880s. The irony is that few of the 1876 coins were set aside for numismatic purposes, whereas low-mintage issues like the 1883 and 1884 were saved to a considerable extent in MS66 and MS67. This Philadelphia issue has the highest mintage among all half dollar dates between 1794 and 1917 and is plentiful through MS64, yet it becomes challenging in Gem condition and is extremely rare in MS66.

Provenance: Purchased from Aspen Park Rare Coins (5/2006). PCGS# 572234 Base PCGS# 6352

**1877 Seated Half Dollar, MS66
Central Brilliance, Peripheral Toning**



98699 1877 Closed Bud, WB-103, MS66 NGC. Each side offers a window of central brilliance surrounded by dramatic blue, orange, purple, and green toning. Glowing luster rounds out the appeal, and minimal marks are concentrated within and hidden by Liberty's gown. The upper obverse and lower reverse are lightly impressed, but the remaining motifs are bold.

Variety: WB-103, the usual variety with a Type Two, Closed Bud reverse.

Population Data (9/15): NGC has seen 15 submissions in MS66 (two in MS66 ★) and seven finer. PCGS reports 22 in MS66 (four MS66+) and two in MS67 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1877 claims the second-highest mintage in the series with a production of 8.3 million pieces. Several laws were passed in 1875 and 1876 with the intention of withdrawing fractional currency from circulation and replacing the notes with silver subsidiary coinage. Large numbers of silver coins, including half dollars, were struck from Comstock-mined bullion. Many pieces entered into the channels of commerce, but not all coins were absorbed into circulation, and millions of half dollars piled up in Treasury vaults. The redundancy of silver coins and the reappearance of old American silver from Latin America forced Treasury Secretary Sherman to halt production late in 1877. These factors account for the issue's availability through near-Gem condition, though examples in MS65 or better are decidedly rare.

Provenance: Classics Sale (*American Numismatic Rarities*, 3/2004), lot 613. PCGS# 572246 Base PCGS# 6355

1877-S Half Dollar, MS66
Ideal S-Mint Type Coin



98700 1877-S Closed Bud, Very Small S, WB-104, MS66 NGC. CAC. Die Pair 27, R.4. The surfaces display primarily violet coloration with blushes of green, orange, magenta, and cobalt-blue intermixed. The attractive multihued toning combines with luminous luster radiating beneath the patina, providing this boldly struck Premium Gem with considerable visual quality to match its impressive technical grade.

Variety: WB-104, Die Pair 27, R.4. Type Two Reverse, Closed Bud, Very Small S mintmark. The obverse has a heavy arching die gouge through Liberty's gown and a prominent die lump in the shield above the T in LIBERTY. Reverse V features a die lump in the U in TRUST.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows 19 Premium Gems and six finer coins — five in MS67 and one MS67+. PCGS lists 21 examples in MS66 (one MS66+) and one MS67 finer. This is among six in MS66 with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: All three mints continued producing half dollars en masse in 1877, following a trend initiated by passage of the Specie Resumption Act of 1875. Many of the 5.3 million 1877-S halves sat in Treasury vaults, hence the high number of Premium Gem survivors relative to earlier S-mint dates in the series.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (11/2001). PCGS# 572255 Base PCGS# 6357

1878 Seated Half Dollar, MS65
Eye-Appealing Pastel Iridescence



98701 1878 WB-101, MS65 PCGS. CAC. This strongly defined Gem displays lavender and lilac hues centrally with colorful pastel shades of orange, yellow, blue, and green at the borders. The green CAC sticker affirms the eye appeal, while close inspection with a loupe confirms the grade. There is one pedigree-identifying abrasion on Liberty's arm and a few other well-hidden marks in the gown.

Variety: WB-101. All die pairs are classified under this attribution. Die cracks connect stars 5 to 7 and 11 to 13.

Population Data (9/15): There are nine MS65 submissions at PCGS and four at NGC. All four finer are in MS66 PCGS holders. CAC shows four in MS65 and two in MS66 with the green approval.

Heritage Commentary: Half dollar production was severely restricted at Carson City and San Francisco in 1878, yet the Philadelphia Mint churned out nearly 1.4 million Seated halves. The 1878-S is arguably the capstone date in the series, and the 1878-CC is a notable semikey, but the 1878-P is actually among the more plentiful issues through the MS64 level. Still, Gems with a comparable degree of eye appeal and equally sharp detail are quite rare.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (11/2008). PCGS# 572256 Base PCGS# 6358

1880 Seated Half Dollar, MS67
Tied for Finest Graded



98702 1880 Closed Bud, WB-102, MS67 NGC. Every design feature on this Superb Gem exhibits razor-sharp detail, and the original toning is breathtaking in its kaleidoscope of colors. Cobalt-blue, salmon-pink, olive-gold, powder-blue, and lavender-gray shades cover both sides in a targetlike fashion. Isolated areas of near-brilliance also occur around the obverse devices. The semiprooflike finish readily appears at direct angles, and the surfaces are free of even the most trivial disturbance.

Variety: WB-102, struck from the reverse that displays a faint die line in the denticles above the STAT in STATES.

Population Data (9/15): This coin is tied with six others for finest at NGC (one in MS67 ★). PCGS shows one MS67 submission and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: The Philadelphia Mint used one obverse and two reverse dies to manufacture 8,400 business strike half dollars in 1880. Despite the limited original mintage, the 1880 is not particularly rare in an absolute sense. However, precious few of the Mint State survivors that were preserved at the time of issue have survived with surfaces pristine enough to warrant an MS67 designation.

Consignor Commentary: Coins from the last 13 years of the series are all plentiful, and collecting them simply becomes a matter of finding ones with the strike, luster, and color that appeal to you. Some like them blazing white. My personal preference is for ones with a kaleidoscope of colors like this coin.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 5/2003), lot 6207. PCGS# 572262 Base PCGS# 6362

1881 Half Dollar, MS66
Extremely Rare Any Finer



98703 1881 Closed Bud, WB-102, MS66 NGC. CAC. This dramatically toned Premium Gem shows the semiprooflike fields common to many business strikes from the 1880s. The devices are noticeably frosted, enhancing the contrast. An interesting mix of violet, green, and golden color occurs on each side with deep red accents on the reverse. Sharply struck throughout. Housed in a former generation holder and accompanied by the CAC green approval sticker.

Variety: WB-102. All circulation strikes have a Closed Bud on the reverse.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 10 examples in MS66 (one in MS66 ★) and three in MS67. PCGS shows 15 in MS66 (one MS66+) with three in MS67 (one MS67+) finer. This piece is among four in MS66 with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: With only 10,000 business strikes produced in 1881, this semikey issue (along with other low-mintage dates from this decade) has long been sought out because of its perceived rarity. Examples are more available through Choice condition than their production total suggests, and only in MS65 does the 1881 become truly rare. Premium Gems are very rare, anything finer prohibitively so.

Provenance: Pittsburgh Signature (Heritage, 8/2004), lot 6248. NGC ID# 24KU, PCGS# 572264 Base PCGS# 6363

1882 Half Dollar, MS67
4,400 Coins Struck
One Example Finer at NGC



98704 1882 WB-101, MS67 NGC. CAC. Electric-blue and orange-green peripheral iridescence frames peach-gray centers on this Superb Gem, a beautiful candidate for a collection of high-grade toned Seated halves. The overall coloration is somewhat more vivid on the reverse, but both sides show distinct semiprooflikeness at select angles — a common feature among coins from this low-mintage issue.

Variety: WB-101, the only die pair employed to manufacture circulation strikes in 1882.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of eight MS67 grading events at NGC (two in MS67 ★). PCGS shows two comparably graded examples, and each firm reports a single MS67 submission finer. This Superb Gem is among two at CAC with the green approval.

Heritage Commentary: Several factors account for the low mintage of the 1882 Seated half issue. The falling price of silver resulted in a large influx of subsidiary coinage from abroad. Significant stockpiles of half dollars already in Treasury vaults reduced the need to produce new coins. Finally, the Mint was preoccupied with coining Morgan dollars, to which most resources were directed — 11 million examples of that denomination were struck at the Philadelphia Mint in 1882 alone.

Provenance: Fort Lauderdale Bullet Sale (*Heritage*, 3/2000), lot 243; purchased from Jason Carter (11/2001). PCGS# 572265 Base PCGS# 6364

1883 Half Dollar, MS64
Rarely Seen Finer



98705 1883 WB-101, MS64 PCGS. Brilliant aside from delicate wisps of golden-russet toning at the borders, this frosty near-Gem is irregularly struck with needle-sharp centers and a hint of softness at the upper obverse and corresponding area on the reverse. Marks are limited to lightly scattered ticks, none of them singularly distracting.

Variety: WB-101. All proofs and business strikes were manufactured using a single die pair.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 23 submissions in MS64 and 39 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Q. David Bowers (2014) estimates that between 10,000 and 20,000 individuals collected coins systematically in 1883. Many of them likely set aside the low-mintage halves (8,000 coins struck in 1883) for numismatic purposes based on the number of surviving high-grade half dollars from that era. Perhaps 200 Uncirculated 1883 representatives are extant, according to CoinFacts. Examples finer than this near-Gem are rare.

Provenance: W.R. Walling Collection (*Stack's*, 3/1996), lot 445. PCGS# 572267 Base PCGS# 6365

1883 Half Dollar, MS65
In-Demand Low-Mintage Issue



98706 1883 WB-101, MS65 PCGS. This amazing Gem shows lovely iridescent toning with lilac, sunset-orange, and gold predominating amid satin luster on both sides. The strike is a touch incomplete, exhibiting softness on Liberty's head and the upper stars, although all other details are bold.

Variety: WB-101, the only dies for the issue.

Population Data (9/15): There are only 14 Gems (one in MS65+) and 25 finer submissions at PCGS. NGC has seen six in MS65 (one in MS65+) and 19 finer submissions.

Heritage Commentary: Production at the Philadelphia Mint and its branches focused on dimes and standard silver dollars throughout the 1880s at the expense of quarters and half dollars. The late, low-mintage dates in the Seated half series are widely sought after, and with a mintage of 8,000 pieces, the 1883 is no exception.

Provenance: *Houston Signature (Heritage, 11/2007), lot 60662. PCGS# 572267 Base PCGS# 6365*

1884 Half Dollar, MS66
4,400 Coins Minted



98707 1884 Repunched Date, WB-102, MS66 PCGS. The thickly frosted portraits of Liberty and the eagle generate significant, albeit undesignated prooflike contrast against the partly mirrored fields. Bands of golden-amber, violet, and cobalt-blue toning surround the frosty centers, enhancing the visual quality of this remarkable Premium Gem. The strike is razor-sharp throughout, and tiny, well-concealed marks fail to distract.

Variety: WB-102. All circulation strikes show the 4 slightly recut north.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 18 coins in MS66 and seven finer submissions up to a single MS68. There are 14 submissions in MS66 (one MS66 ★) at NGC and nine finer, the finest also a sole MS68.

Heritage Commentary: This popular issue has one of the smallest mintages in not only the Seated half dollar series, but all half dollar series from 1794 to present. A mere 4,400 coins were struck, as sufficient quantities of half dollars were in circulation. In effect, the paltry production makes every coin a first-strike representative, hence the larger proportion of markedly prooflike survivors.

Provenance: *Purchased from Larry Whitlow (1/2004). PCGS# 572269 Base PCGS# 6366*

1886 Half Dollar, MS66
Tied for Finest at NGC



98708 1886 WB-101, MS66 NGC. The prooflike surfaces are carefully preserved; the only readily apparent mark is a small tick in the right obverse field. Lavender-toned central motifs are moderately frosted and appear to float over watery fields colored in shades of cobalt-blue, turquoise, and violet. Liberty's head and the stars display a bit of strike softness, but the eagle is boldly struck.

Variety: WB-101. A single pair of dies was required to produce proofs and circulation strikes in 1886.

Population Data (9/15): This Premium Gem is among the five top-graded examples at NGC. PCGS also reports five MS66 submissions (one MS66+) with two in MS67 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Only 5,000 Seated half dollars were struck at Philadelphia in 1886. The low production total was essentially symbolic; 5,000 additional coins in circulation was akin to a drop of water in the ocean. Although many 1886 halves were saved in high grades, the supply is hardly enough to satisfy present-day demand, especially from Registry enthusiasts seeking the best-preserved pieces available.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (3/2005). PCGS# 572271 Base PCGS# 6368

1887 Half Dollar, MS67
Only 5,000 Coins Struck
The Best of the Best



98709 1887 WB-101, MS67 PCGS. CAC. Uniform blue and rose toning graces the obverse of this low-mintage Superb Gem representative with significant rose and green concentric color on the reverse. The obverse displays softness of strike peripherally, while the other side is much better-defined overall. There is a small pedigree marker in the right obverse field beside star 11. Beautiful, overtly original surfaces with unsurpassed preservation make this a must-have piece for Registry collectors.

Variety: WB-101. The Wiley-Bugert reference cites two obverse dies for the date, and each is categorized under this attribution.

Population Data (9/15): The top-graded coins at both services are five in MS67 at PCGS and another three comparable examples at NGC. Only four Superb Gems boast a CAC approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: Vast quantities of Uncirculated half dollars minted throughout the 1880s were set aside speculatively by collectors with an eye toward future profit. Such is the case for the 5,000 coins struck in 1887. Examples can be found with little trouble through near-Gem condition. Only in MS65 does the issue become rare. Superb Gems such as this represent the best of the best. Gene Gardner had one other MS67 example, which realized \$24,675 as lot 30524 in our sale of the first installment of his collection in June 2014.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (1/2004). NGC ID# 24L2, PCGS# 572272 Base PCGS# 6369

1888 Half Dollar, MS64
Coveted Low-Mintage Issue



98710 1888 WB-101, MS64 PCGS. Dappled olive and russet toning hugs the upper obverse and entire reverse border areas of this near-Gem late-date Seated half. The centers are frosty and brilliant on each side, but the strike shows softness over Liberty's head, the upper stars, and the denomination on the reverse. The olive leaves are notably bold. Lightly scattered ticks are undistracting.

Variety: WB-101, the sole die pair for the date.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 27 submitted in MS64 and 50 finer. There are 31 in MS64 at NGC and 43 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Despite a small mintage of 12,001 coins, many 1888 half dollars were saved by contemporary collectors. The issue would be considered available through Premium Gem condition, based strictly on the number of certified representatives at the leading services. However, demand for this low-mintage date is perennially strong, to the point that examples become prohibitively priced for most collectors above the near-Gem grade level. This is a great example for those seeking a balance between condition and affordability.

Provenance: W.R. Walling Sale (*Stack's*, 3/1996), lot 460. PCGS# 572273 Base PCGS# 6370

1888 Half Dollar, Iridescent MS67 ★
None Graded Finer



98711 1888 WB-101 MS67 ★ NGC. Aside from its unimprovable preservation, this Superb Gem boasts marvelous coloring and vibrant mint luster, both aptly recognized by NGC's much-collected Star designation for over-the-top eye appeal. The lower obverse features a medley of ice-blue, rose, and golden-orange with splashes of jade-green and pearl-gray patina over the upper regions. Similar tones appear throughout the reverse. Softly struck at the upper obverse but otherwise bold.

Variety: WB-101.

Population Data (8/15): NGC reports 12 examples in MS67 (two in MS67+, one in MS67 ★), while PCGS shows six comparably graded coins. Neither service records a single finer submission.

Heritage Commentary: Although the 1888 has a mintage two to three times that of the 1879, 1882, or 1884, its production of 12,000 coins still seems paltry within the larger context of the Seated series. Moreover, this late-date issue is about equally as rare at this lofty grade level.

Consignor Commentary: Few seem to have ever given this date much consideration. Even Walter Breen, in his massive *Complete Encyclopedia*, passes it by with just a brief comment that examples are usually seen struck from clashed dies. This coin, anyway, is an exception to that statement, with no clashing visible. Attractively toned with a Star designation from NGC, this piece represents the best of the slabbed representatives at both major services.

Provenance: Purchased from Bill Nagle (5/2003). PCGS# 572273 Base PCGS# 6370

PROOF SEATED HALF DOLLARS

1841 Half Dollar, PR64 Eight Proofs Believed Extant Tied for Second on the Condition Census



98712 1841 PR64 NGC. WB-102. This Choice proof was described in the Bowers and Merena catalog as: "Light gold toning with faint blue highlights over deeply reflective fields. Boldly struck with every detail extremely sharp." We add that the patina occurs primarily around the borders, while the centers are only delicately toned. The central motifs feature a moderate degree of frost, and although it is insufficient to warrant a Cameo designation, the field-device contrast remains noticeable.

Variety: WB-102. The date shows repunching on the base of 18.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports three submissions in PR64 and two in PR65, while PCGS lists one example in PR61, two in PR63 (one in PR63+), and two in PR64. One or more resubmissions or crossovers are likely included in these figures.

Heritage Commentary: The number of 1841 proof half dollars struck is unknown, but there is no doubt of the issue's extreme rarity today. Breen reported nine appearances and believed that five were different examples. The Wiley-Bugert reference wrote "less than 6 [proofs] known." In the John Jay Pittman catalog, David Akers explained that he had verified six 1841 proof halves. Our auction records suggest eight examples are extant.

Roster of Proof 1841 Half Dollars

- 1. PR65 NGC.** James Kelly (privately, 1946); John Jay Pittman Collection, Part II (David Akers, 5/1998, lot 1522); Richmond Collection (David Lawrence, 3/2005), lot 1786; C.L. Lee Sale (America Numismatic Rarities, 9/2005), lot 413; Pre-Long Beach (Ira & Larry Goldberg, 2/2006), lot 1472.
- 2. PR64 NGC.** Boys Town Sale (Superior, 5/1990), lot 3803; Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 5/2008), lot 718; Eugene H. Gardner Collection, Part III (Heritage, 5/2015), lot 98500.
- 3. PR64 NGC.** John G. Mills (S.H. and H. Chapman, 4/1904), lot 896; J.M. Clapp; Clapp Estate, to Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. (1942); Eliasberg Collection (Bowers and Merena, 4/1997), lot 1919; Phil Kaufman; FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2008), lot 3021; FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2013), lot 5655; Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 9/2013), lot 6446.
- 4. PR64 NGC.** Dr. R.H. Wilson; 1952 ANA Sale (New Netherlands, 8/1952), lot 310; Elliot Landau Collection (New Netherlands, 12/1958), lot 575; Dr. James O. Sloss Sale (Bowers and Merena, 1/1999), lot 1137; unknown intermediaries; purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (4/2008). **The present coin.**
- 5. PR62.** Charles A. Cass; Empire Collection (Stack's, 11/1957), lot 1352; Reed Hawn Collection (Stack's, 8/1973), lot 132; Auction '81 (RARCOA, 7/1981), lot 137; Auction '90 (Stack's, 8/1990), lot 210; Brooklyn Sale (Stack's, 3/2007), lot 849.
- 6. PR61 PCGS.** Rarities Sale (Bowers and Merena, 7/2005), lot 550; Philadelphia Signature (Heritage, 8/2012), lot 5154.
- 7. Proof.** Smithsonian Institution.
- 8. Proof.** American Numismatic Society.

Additional Appearances

- A. Proof.** David Golding (Stack's, 6/1952), lot 232.
- B. Proof.** Gustav Lichtenfels Collection (Kreisberg and Schulman, 2/1961), lot 2806. "Brilliant Proof. Sharp square edge. One of the very few in existence. Rare." Unplated.
- C. Proof.** Amwest (7/1981).
- D. Proof.** George H. Earle (H. Chapman, 6/1912), lot 2970. NGC ID# 27T3, PCGS# 6385

1844 Seated Half Dollar, PR62 One of Two Certified Proofs

98713 1844 PR62 NGC. WB-101. The razor-sharp devices of this rare 1844 proof half dollar stand out against the reflective mirrors, particularly when the coin is held at an angle under a lamp. Broad, square rims frame surfaces that show colorful, iridescent peach-orange, lavender, olive, and blue patina. The toning enhances the aesthetic appeal and effectively hides the scattered contact marks that limit the grade.

Variety: WB-101, normal date centered below the base.

Population Data (9/15): This PR62 example is among two certified proofs at NGC and PCGS combined. The other is a PR65 Cameo example at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: Since the advent of third-party certification over three decades ago, collectors have grown accustomed to population totals increasing over time. The 1844 proof half dollar, however, presents a situation where certification totals have remained unchanged and survival estimates have actually decreased. Breen wrote of this issue in his *Proof Encyclopedia*:

“Half Dollar. Normal date. (1) SI ex Mint? (2) Dr. Judd cased set. (3) A drastically cleaned piece I was offered, and refused, about 1954. (4) One I owned about 1953, also cleaned. (5) Brand-Lichtenfels I: 2816, impaired, possibly same as one of last two. Wayne Raymond knew at least three, only one of them likely to duplicate the above, so probably at least two others are salted away in estates or private collections.”

Breen estimated the number of surviving proofs at around seven or eight examples; Wiley and Bugert similarly believed that fewer than 10 pieces were extant. Given that a mere two examples have been certified by NGC and PCGS combined, it is probable that those estimates were high, and collectors should adjust their expectations accordingly.

The Eugene H. Gardner Collection contained both certified 1844 proof half dollars. The Pittman-Kaufman coin was recently crossed over from its PR66 Cameo NGC holder to a PR65 PCGS slab and later to a PR65 Cameo holder, leaving this PR62 example as the only 1844 proof half dollar at NGC. The mystery and absolute rarity of this issue are sure to generate excitement come auction day.

Roster of 1844 Proof Half Dollars

- 1. PR65 Cameo PCGS.** The Pittman-Kaufman specimen. Numismatic Gallery (4/1948); John Jay Pittman Collection, Part I (David Akers, 10/1997), lot 833; Philip Kaufman Collection / FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2008), lot 3026; Greensboro Collection, Part II (Heritage, 1/2013), lot 5658; Eugene H. Gardner Collection, Part I (Heritage, 6/2014), lot 30528, as PR66 Cameo.
- 2. PR62 NGC.** Purchased from Chris Napolitano (6/2007). **The present coin.**
- 3. Brilliant Proof.** Winter Collection (Stack's, 1-2/1974), lot 1437; Robison Collection (Stack's, 2/1982), lot 1622.
- 4. Brilliant Proof.** Stack's (9/1993), lot 358; George “Buddy” Byers Collection (Stack's, 10/2006), lot 1130.
- 5. Proof.** Smithsonian Institution.

Additional Appearances

A. Impaired Proof. Kreisberg-Schulman (2/1961), lot 2816. Unplated. Described as having “numerous tiny field scratches.” Possibly the same as the Stack's 1993 specimen. NGC ID# 27T6, PCGS# 86388



1849 Half Dollar, Lightly Toned PR63

The Eliasberg Coin

Six Proofs Believed To Survive



98714 1849 PR63 PCGS. CAC. WB-101. Ex: Eliasberg. Splashes of ice-blue and russet toning occur around the rims and in the fields, while rose and golden-gray patina dominates the surfaces. As expected, the devices are fully struck, contrasting markedly against the glassy mirrors. The CAC endorsement attests to this proof's originality and eye appeal.

Variety: WB-101. Die finish marks in the reverse shield confirm the proof origin.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows one example each in PR63, PR64, and PR66. NGC lists one submission in PR64, two in PR65, and one in PR66.

Heritage Commentary: The Eliasberg catalog noted that the 1849 proof halves "are among the greatest half dollar rarities of the decade, even more elusive than the 1848" Wiley and Bugert (1993) accurately estimated "at least five are known."

1849 Proof Half Dollar Roster

1. PR66 NGC. Grand Central Sale (Paramount, 11/1967), lot 1017; John Jay Pittman Collection (David Akers, 5/1998), lot 1536; Bowers and Merena (8/1999), lot 205; George "Buddy" Byers Collection (Stack's, 10/2006), lot 1150; Malibu Collection (Heritage, 9/2008), lot 2247; Los Angeles Signature (Heritage, 8/2009), lot 1127; Eugene H. Gardner Collection, Part II (Heritage, 10/2014), lot 98528.

2. PR66 PCGS. Stack's (3/1975), lot 453; FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2014), lot 5262.

3. PR65 NGC. F.C.C. Boyd; World's Greatest Collection (Numismatic Gallery, 4/1945), lot 296; Floyd T. Starr Collection (Stack's, 10/1992), lot 549; Superior (7/1993), lot 421; Phil Kaufman Collection (Heritage, 4/2008), lot 2391; FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2010), lot 2555. Walter Breen suggested this coin was possibly earlier in the Parmelee (lot 1201) and Earle (lot 2997) sales.

4. PR64 NGC. Richmond Sale, Part III (David Lawrence, 3/2005), lot 1793; FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2012), lot 3251.

5. PR64 PCGS. Randall Collection, lot 409; Garrett Collection (Stack's, 3/1976), lot 214; Auction '88 (RARCOA, 7/1988), lot 1725; Heritage (9/2005), lot 3265.

6. PR63 PCGS. Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection (Bowers and Merena, 4/1997), lot 1947. **The present coin.**

Additional Appearances

A. Proof. Kagin's (7/1978), lot 622.

B. Proof. Amwest (7/1981). NGC ID# 27TB, PCGS# 6393

1852 Half Dollar, PR63
One of Three Certified Proofs
Among the Rarest Issues in the Series



98715 1852 PR63 NGC. WB-101. Cobalt-blue peripheries cede to violet, olive, and lilac hues, leaving the centers mostly brilliant on each side of this extremely rare Select proof. The patina partially subdues the contrast between the watery fields and pinpoint-sharp motifs, but the proof reflectivity remains undiminished beneath the attractive toning. Housed in a former generation holder.

Variety: WB-101, the only attribution for the date. There is a prominent die line from the dentil above the T in UNITED.

Population Data (9/15): NGC counts one PR60 example, one PR63, and one PR65. There are no proofs reported at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: By 1852, the Gold Rush had raised the gold value of silver to the point where silver coins were worth more as bullion. Consequently, few half dollars were struck for circulation, and only a handful of proofs were manufactured. CoinFacts suggests a mintage of six 1852 proof halves, but that figure seems high given the small number of certified representatives. Probably only four of five specimens were struck, three of which survive. While the coins themselves are extremely rare, chances to procure them are nearly as scarce. Advanced collectors should seize this important opportunity and bid appropriately.

Roster of 1852 Proof Half Dollars

- 1. PR65 NGC.** Phil Kaufman Collection / ANA Signature (Heritage, 7/2008), lot 1824; FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2013), lot 5666; Eugene H. Gardner Collection, Part I (Heritage, 6/2014), lot 30531; Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 1/2015), lot 3141.
- 2. PR63 NGC.** Tecumseh Sale (Steve Ivy Numismatic Auctions, 12/1979), lot 700; Auction '84 (Paramount, 7/1984), lot 668; Worrell Collection (Superior Galleries, 9/1993), lot 731; Public Auction Sale (Stack's, 10/1996), lot 303. **The present coin.** In 1993, the Superior cataloger noted: "Purchased by Paramount from Robert Batchelder, a Pennsylvania dealer, in 1974 and sold privately in early 1975. It later appeared in Steve Ivy's Tecumseh Sale." The Superior pedigree chain for this piece also lists, incorrectly, lot 203 in Auction '86, which is an 1852-O brilliant proof half dollar.
- 3. PR63.** Norweb Collection (Bowers and Merena, 11/1988), lot 3157; Jascha Heifetz Collection (Superior, 10/1989), lot 1590.

Additional Appearances

- A. Proof.** Richard B. Winsor Collection (S.H. & H. Chapman, 12/1895), lot 1070, part of a complete silver proof set, realized \$115.
- B. Proof.** Howard Rounds Newcomb; Newcomb Collection, Part I (J.C. Morgenthau, 2/1945), lot 746 (per Breen, who says "later untraced unless this is the former W.L. Carson specimen via Lester Merkin." If Breen is referring to Merkin's February 1971 sale, lot 755, he is mistaken, as that coin is an 1852-O brilliant proof half dollar).
- C. Proof.** Paramount, per Breen (possibly the coin purchased from Batchelder, referred to in number 2 above). NGC ID# 3DBN, PCGS# 6397

**1855 Arrows Half Dollar, PR64 Cameo
Extremely Rare in Proof Format
Tied for Finest at PCGS**



98716 1855 Arrows PR64 Cameo PCGS. CAC. WB-101. Thickly frosted and predictably needle-sharp devices generate stark contrast against the seemingly limitless fields, accounting for the Cameo designation from PCGS and the green approval sticker from CAC. Light golden and olive patina frames largely untuned centers. A small planchet flaw appears above D(OL), while scattered contact marks are barely visible to the unaided eye.

Variety: WB-101. This is the normal date for the issue. A small quantity of proofs feature the 1855/54 overdate variety, attributed as WB-102.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows five proof submissions, including one each in PR64, PR65, and PR63 Cameo, and two in PR64 Cameo. NGC reports two PR63 submissions, three PR65, and one each in PR64 Cameo, PR65 Cameo, and PR66 Cameo. An unknown number of resubmissions and crossovers likely inflate the population data.

Heritage Commentary: No records were kept detailing the production of proofs during this era, leaving present-day numismatists with little in the way of concrete evidence save the coins themselves. The *Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Half Dollars* (1993) commented that “possibly 20 normal dates and at least 3 overdates exist,” while Walter Breen remarked that he had seen “less than a dozen” normal date specimens in all. The 13 grading events at PCGS and NGC combined suggest a mintage of approximately eight to 12 normal date proofs. Whether the actual production total is closer to the upper or lower end of that spectrum, one thing is certain: The proof 1855 Arrows half dollar issue is a significant rarity in the Seated series.

Provenance: *Empire State Collection* (Stack’s, 1/1997), lot 577. NGC ID# 5HG9, PCGS# 86408

**1857 Seated Half, Beautifully Toned PR67
Ex: Garrett-Kaufman**



98717 1857 PR67 NGC. WB-101. The Kaufman 1857 Superb Gem proof half dollar displays beautiful cobalt-blue, lavender, violet, and yellow-gold toning over both sides, a shade or two deeper on the reverse. The surfaces are fully struck throughout. Each side exhibits noticeable field-motif contrast. As might be expected for the Superb Gem designation, the surfaces are impeccably preserved; other than the toning pattern, we are hard-pressed to locate pedigree identifiers for future catalogers and researchers.

Variety: WB-101, Normal Date.

Population Data (9/15): The combined NGC and PCGS populations are highly inflated by resubmissions. This piece is the sole PR67 at NGC, although one other is certified PR67 Cameo. None are finer in any contrast level. The finest at PCGS are two submissions in PR66.

Heritage Commentary: Previous researchers have estimated that likely only about 25 — and as few 13 to 16 — 1857 proofs may exist. In actuality, the number is considerably higher. We have been able to trace what we believe are 35 different coins, although there may be some duplication in the roster; an educated survival estimate for the issue is 30 to 40 coins. This figure suggests a mintage of at least 50 pieces and is consistent with the frequency of auction appearances.

Provenance: *Professor Anthon Collection, Part V* (Cogan/Bangs, 10/1884), lot 239; *John Work Garrett Collection; The Johns Hopkins University* (Stack’s 3/1976), lot 226; *Phil Kaufman; ANA Signature* (Heritage, 7-8/2008), lot 1829. NGC ID# 27TG, PCGS# 6411

1858 Half Dollar, PR64
Beautifully Toned



98718 1858 PR64 PCGS. WB-101. This beautifully toned near-Gem proof features lavender, apricot-orange, ice-blue, and olive iridescence over minimally marked and deeply reflective surfaces. Multiple blows from highly polished dies result in moderately frosted, razor-sharp devices throughout. A highly appealing No Motto proof.

Variety: WB-101, Type One Reverse. The top serifs of LF in HALF are closely spaced. The date is high with the 5 nearly touching the base, as described in Breen's *Proof Encyclopedia*.

Population Data (9/15): This coin is among 32 PR64 submissions at PCGS with eight examples finer. NGC enumerates 18 in PR64 (three PR64+) and 13 finer.

Heritage Commentary: A large number of proof half dollars, reportedly around 300 pieces, were struck in 1858 and distributed to collectors at no extra charge. Previously, proofs were manufactured in limited quantities on request. The 1858 is the first proof Seated half issue that can be considered collectible, but examples are nonetheless rare in Choice condition or better. This piece was color-plated, called "Gem Brilliant Proof" and described in its Stack's 1998 appearance thusly: "Gleaming silver lies beneath jewel-like clear rose gold and lilac toning of the most exquisite beauty."

Provenance: Museum of Connecticut History Sale (Stack's, 3/1998), lot 526. NGC ID# 27TH, PCGS# 6412

1859 Seated Half Dollar, PR67
A Top-Grade Proof



98719 1859 PR67 NGC. WB-101. Gorgeous target toning covers the obverse in cobalt-blue, rose, and apricot-gold hues. The dusky violet reverse displays areas of lighter reddish-gray patina with dappled electric-blue rim accents. Razor-sharp strike definition, typical of a proof, appears throughout, complementing the deep reflectivity readily apparent in the obverse field. Virtually flawless.

Variety: WB-101, Type One Reverse. At least three different die marriages exist. This example is attributed by the presence of a tiny die lump in the lower obverse field above the flag of the 1 in the date.

Population Data (9/15): There are five coins in PR67 at NGC (two in PR67 ★) and two in the same grade at PCGS. Neither service reports a finer submission.

Heritage Commentary: The 1859 represents the second proof issue struck in large quantities and distributed to the public at face value. The coins were popular among speculators, and the Mint began charging a proofing fee the following year, assuming demand would remain constant (it decreased). A total of 800 proof Seated half dollars were minted in 1859, and this immaculate, eye-catching Superb Gem is among the top-graded survivors.

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2003), lot 7204. NGC ID# 27TJ, PCGS# 6413

1863 Half Dollar, PR66
Among the Finest at PCGS



98720 1863 PR66 PCGS. WB-101. The near-flawless surfaces of this Premium Gem proof feature streaks of cobalt-blue, golden-tan, and lavender on the obverse, while the reverse shows mostly violet-gray, rose, and golden patina. The Bowers and Merena cataloger noted: "Pieces with such vivid iridescent toning are typically encountered only when old-time collections are brought to the market." Encapsulated in an old green label holder.

Variety: WB-101, the only major variety for the date.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of two top-graded proofs at PCGS. NGC reports four Premium Gem proofs and four finer submissions.

Heritage Commentary: The proof half dollar mintage dipped to a low of 460 pieces in 1863. Understandably, collector interest waned at the height of the Civil War, and the proofing charge first implemented in 1860 further reduced the demand for proofs. This example, housed in its original holder, has been off the market for 18 years. A rare opportunity to acquire one of the finest coins at PCGS.

Provenance: Craig M. Morgan, M.D. Collection (Bowers and Merena, 11/1998), lot 198. NGC ID# 27TP, PCGS# 6417

1865 Half Dollar, Richly Toned PR64
Excellent No Motto Type Coin



98721 1865 PR64 PCGS. WB-101. Gunmetal-blue and rose-violet patina colors the obverse, while olive accents complement the dominant hues. The reverse features lilac-toned centers that cede to variegated purple and blue shades around the borders with a burst of orange behind the eagle's head. Light, wispy marks are noted throughout, but they are undistracting.

Variety: WB-101, with a downward-sloping date centered below the base.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 50 submissions in PR64 (one in PR64+) with 21 finer examples.

Heritage Commentary: Those seeking a nicely toned, razor-sharp No Motto Seated half need look no further. From a mintage of 500 proofs, the 1865 is very scarce at the near-Gem level and rare in finer condition.

Provenance: Empire State Collection (Stack's, 1/1997), lot 578. NGC ID# 27TS, PCGS# 6419

1865 Seated Half Dollar, Lovely PR65
Blended Powder-Blue, Gold, and Rose Patina



98722 1865 PR65 NGC. CAC. WB-101. A beautiful Gem proof boasting a well-deserved CAC approval sticker, this piece offers richly toned surfaces with blended shades of powder-blue, gold, and rose. Deeply reflective fields underlie the attractive multicolor patina, and microscopic ticks are practically undetectable without a glass. Housed in a prior generation holder.

Variety: WB-101. The centered date slopes downward, and the shield point is between 18 in the date.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows 21 submitted in PR65 (one in PR65 ★) with 16 finer. PCGS reports 11 Gem proofs and 10 finer. CAC has endorsed only two Gems and five PR66 representatives.

Heritage Commentary: Of the 500 proofs manufactured in 1865, perhaps just 10% survive in PR65 or better, according to CoinFacts.

Provenance: Joel O. Cheek Collection (*Stack's*, 5/2002), lot 274. NGC ID# 27TS, PCGS# 6419

1866 Motto Half Dollar, PR63
Minimally Marked First-Year Proof



98723 1866 Motto PR63 PCGS. WB-101. This Select first-year Motto proof shows surfaces shrouded in golden and violet-gray patina with occasional powder-blue tints in the fields. As expected of a proof, the design elements are fully rendered. The surfaces are minimally marked for the assigned numeric grade.

Variety: WB-101, with no recutting on the 6s. The date slopes slightly downward. The R and I in AMERICA are connected, as are the two lower arrowheads.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS has seen 43 submissions in PR63 with 50 in higher grades.

Heritage Commentary: A relatively high mintage of 725 coins, bold strike definition, and status as a first-year With Motto issue make the 1866 proof Seated half dollar a popular choice among type enthusiasts.

Provenance: Purchased directly from *Stack's* (6/1995). NGC ID# 27TZ, PCGS# 6424

1867 Half Dollar, PR66 Cameo
None Graded Higher at PCGS



1873 Arrows Half Dollar, PR65 Cameo
Colorful and Thickly Frosted, Two-Year Type



98724 1867 PR66 Cameo PCGS. WB-101. Coated in a thick layer of mint frost, the motifs contrast markedly against the glassy, apparently limitless fields throughout this Premium Gem Cameo proof. On the obverse, central brilliance progresses to concentric bands of golden-orange, magenta, violet, and blue. The reverse is almost entirely untoned, aside from splashes of peripheral rose. Immediately eye-catching with lots to admire and little to critique upon close inspection.

Variety: WB-101, with a high, upward-sloping date. Prominent die polish lines occur at the lower left reverse.

Population Data (9/15): Six PR66 Cameo coins are tied for finest at PCGS. NGC shows eight PR66 Cameo grading events with three PR67 (one PR67 ★) submissions finer.

Heritage Commentary: The Mint produced 625 proof Seated halves in 1867, supporting a business-strike mintage of 449,300 pieces. The coins struck for circulation are extremely rare in near-Gem condition or better, putting added pressure on proofs from collectors seeking high-grade examples of this early With Motto date.

Provenance: *Old West and Franklinton Collections (American Numismatic Rarities, 8/2006)*, lot 629. NGC ID# 27U2, PCGS# 86425

98725 1873 Arrows PR65 Cameo PCGS Secure. WB-106. Violet, magenta, blue, and peach-orange colors congregate around the obverse margins of this Gem Cameo proof, surrounding brilliant interiors with a thickly frosted portrait of Liberty. The reverse displays more uniform golden-lilac patina. Each side is deeply reflective and carefully preserved.

Variety: WB-106, Large Arrows. All proofs of this issue have an Open 3 and large (or long) arrows at the date.

Population Data (9/15): There are only four PR65 Cameo coins at PCGS with two PR66 Cameo submissions finer. NGC reports seven in PR65 Cameo with six PR66 Cameo (two PR66+ ★ Cameo) in higher grades.

Heritage Commentary: A total of 600 proof No Arrows half dollars were struck between January and April 1873, all with a Closed 3 in the date. The weight of the half dollar increased from 12.44 gm to 12.50 gm after the passage of the Mint Act of February 12, 1873, and arrows were added to distinguish the heavier coins from their earlier, fractionally lighter counterparts. The 3 was also modified to appear less like an 8 digit. Breen and Wiley-Bugert both cite a mintage of 550 proof 1873 Arrows half dollars provided by "Mr. 1873" Harry X Boesel, who specialized in the coinage of this year.

Provenance: *Rarities Sale (Stack's Bowers, 1/2011)*, lot 733. NGC ID# 27UU, PCGS# 86434

**1874 Arrows Half Dollar, PR64
Technically and Visually Impressive**



98726 1874 Arrows PR64 PCGS. CAC. WB-101. Each side offers frosty, untuned centers with undesignated cameo contrast that turns to red-violet, blue, and sea-green hues at the rims of this near-Gem proof. The underlying surfaces feature captivating proof reflectivity in the fields and a limited number of thin, wispy marks that fail to diminish the outstanding eye appeal.

Variety: WB-101, Small Arrows. All proofs are of this variety. Wiley and Bugert note in their 1993 reference: "Usually found as a proof and by far scarcer than WB-102"

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 57 near-Gem proofs and 24 finer submissions.

Heritage Commentary: This proof has been held in the Gardner Collection for nearly 20 years. It was among the earliest acquisitions in what will surely be regarded as one of the greatest collections ever assembled not only in terms of its technical quality, but also in its eye appeal. This proof 1874 Arrows half dollar combines both of those coveted characteristics. With a mintage of 700 proofs, 1874 Arrows halves are slightly more available than first-year 1873 piece, but the issue is conditionally scarce at this grade level.

Provenance: Numisma '95 (*Stack's session*, 11/1995), lot 1279. NGC ID# 27UV, PCGS# 6435

**1877 Half Dollar, Nicely Toned PR65
Low Mintage of 510 Proofs**



98727 1877 PR65 PCGS. WB-103. Generally forest-green and peach-gold in color, the obverse of this Gem proof also shows cream-gray and pale red toning. When rotated under a light, each side further exhibits a medley of ice-blue, magenta, and lavender elements. The glassy fields are devoid of hairlines, and the overall appeal is extraordinary.

Variety: WB-103, Type Two Reverse, identified by the closed bud above the H in HALF.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS records eight examples in PR65 and two in PR66. NGC has seen 10 Gem proofs with five Premium Gems finer.

Heritage Commentary: An almost unimaginable number of circulation-strike half dollars were manufactured at Philadelphia in 1877. The 8.3 million-coin mintage is the second-highest in the entire series. By comparison, the production of 510 proofs seems tiny, but the total is also small relative to other Seated half proof issues. In fact, the 1877 is tied with the 1865 for the fifth-lowest proof mintage between 1858 and 1891.

Provenance: FUN Signature (*Heritage*, 1/2010), lot 3691. NGC ID# 27UC, PCGS# 6438

1877 Seated Half Dollar, PR66
Among the Finest Certified
Ex: Cornelius Vermeule



98728 1877 PR66 NGC. WB-103. This sharply detailed Premium Gem proof exhibits vivid blue and iridescent toning throughout with brilliance confined to the central obverse. Bold contrast between the mirrored fields and needle-sharp devices is readily apparent on each side.

Variety: WB-103, with a Type Two reverse showing a closed bud on the olive branch.

Population Data (9/15): There are five Premium Gem proofs at NGC and two PR66 examples at PCGS. Neither services reports a finer submission. These figures likely contain one or more resubmissions.

Heritage Commentary: Proof half dollar output fell to 510 coins in 1877, one of the lowest totals in the series. Examples are readily available through Choice condition, but Gems are rarely encountered. Our records show nine Premium Gem auction appearances in the past 10 years, highlighting the extreme rarity of the 1877 in this remarkable state of preservation.

Provenance: Cornelius Vermeule, III Collection (*Stack's*, 11/2001), lot 323; *Chicago Signature* (*Heritage*, 8/2011), lot 4043. NGC ID# 27UC, PCGS# 6438

1878 Half Dollar, PR63
Dramatic Patina



98729 1878 PR63 NGC. WB-101. Ice-blue and mint-green tones adorn the margins of this Select proof, encompassing lilac-rose centers on both sides, though the effect is more pronounced on the reverse. The dusky patina partly subdues the proof mirroring in the fields, but the reflectivity is nevertheless detectable at certain angles. Light contact marks limit the grade.

Variety: WB-101, Type Two Reverse. The left base of the 1 is positioned over the left edge of the dentil, and the shield point is aligned with the left edge of the 8.

Population Data (9/15): Several dozen submissions each at NGC and PCGS are finer, but this piece would provide a good entry point for type-set purposes to budget-minded collectors.

Heritage Commentary: The entire mintage of 800 proofs was accomplished in the first quarter of 1878. Later in the year, most resources were directed toward the production of Morgan (then known as Bland) dollars. This stemmed from the passage of the Bland-Allison Act on February 28, 1878, mandating that the Treasury department purchase between \$2 million and \$4 million in silver bullion each month. In subsequent years, the production of circulation-strike half dollars dwindled, and proof mintages increased to satisfy collector demand.

Provenance: *Coin Galleries* (2/1996), lot 2580. NGC ID# 27UD, PCGS# 6439

1878 Half Dollar, PR66 Cameo
Splendid Array of Colors
None Finer at PCGS



98730 1878 PR66 Cameo PCGS. WB-101. The color palette on this amazing Premium Gem Cameo proof runs the gamut from shades of orange, yellow, blue, and green to rose, lavender, and violet. A rich coating of frost covers mostly brilliant central motifs on each side, generating the noted cameo contrast. A loupe reveals tiny flecks scattered throughout, though none of them are distracting.

Variety: WB-101. There are no major varieties for the date, but Walter Breen reports two different proof dies, both with the Type Two reverse. This example corresponds to the second die pair in the *Proof Encyclopedia*. The base of the 1 is left of center over the dentil, and the shield points between 18 in the date.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports seven in PR66 Cameo (two in PR66+ Cameo) and none finer. NGC reports 11 submitted in PR66 Cameo and four finer in PR67 Cameo.

Heritage Commentary: According to Breen, 820 proof Seated halves were coined during the first quarter of 1878. A total of 600 sets were delivered during that quarter, and another 200 sets in the second quarter. The remaining 20 proofs were apparently still on hand in January 1879, but Breen explains: "These all seem to have been sold during that year, none recorded as melted." The 2016 *Guide Book* and the Wiley-Bugert reference each cite a production of 800 half dollar proofs in 1878. Either way, survivors of similar quality are very rare.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (11/2004). NGC ID# 27UD, PCGS# 86439

1881 Half Dollar, PR64 Cameo
Appealing Circulation-Strike Alternative



98731 1881 PR64 Cameo PCGS. CAC. WB-102. Frosty golden-orange and lilac centers cede to rose-toned borders. The Cameo designation is well-deserved, as the field-motif contrast is immediately apparent throughout. A phenomenally eye-appealing proof.

Variety: WB-102, Type Two Reverse. Proofs were struck with both reverse hub types, while circulation strikes are all of the Closed Bud variety.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 24 in PR64 Cameo (two in PR64+ Cameo) with 20 finer submissions. NGC accounts for 30 submissions in PR64 Cameo (one PR64+, one PR64 ★) and 39 finer. Eight in this grade have the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1881 sports one of the lowest mintages in the Seated series, a production of 10,000 circulation strikes. Given the ever-strong demand for high-end examples of this popular date, collectors often turn to one of the 975 more-available proofs as an alternative. Near-Gem Cameo proofs, however, are nearly as scarce as their business-strike counterparts.

Provenance: Lewis M. Reagan Collection (*Stack's*, 1/1996), lot 574. NGC ID# 27UG, PCGS# 86442

1883 Half Dollar, Richly Toned PR67
Stark Field-Motif Contrast



98732 1883 PR67 NGC. WB-101. This undesignated Superb Gem proof features considerable cameo contrast, accounting for the excellent aesthetic appeal. Deeply mirrored violet- and blue-toned fields surround frosty devices layered in attractive lavender and pinkish-orange patina. Each side is practically pristine, save for a few microscopic flecks.

Variety: WB-101. One die pair was used to coin both proofs and circulation strikes.

Population Data (9/14): NGC lists six PR67 (one PR67 ★) grading events with two finer, while PCGS shows three in PR67 and none graded higher.

Heritage Commentary: A production of 1,039 proofs complements a mintage of 8,000 circulation strikes for this 1883 issue. Sufficient Treasury stockpiles and inflows of old American silver from abroad diminished the need to strike new half dollars. The low business-strike mintage puts significant date pressure on proofs that are otherwise available through PR64. Only a handful of proofs survive in Superb Gem condition, and they are widely sought after.

Provenance: Purchased from Aspen Park Rare Coins (4/2005). NGC ID# 27UJ, PCGS# 6444

1883 Seated Half Dollar, PR68
Flawless, Top-Graded Example



98733 1883 PR68 NGC. WB-101. Immaculately preserved surfaces — about as close to perfect as one may hope to find — exhibit whispers of sky-blue and lavender patina around the margins with hints of light beige over the centers. The coloration is far more vivid on the reverse, showing an array of rainbow hues. Lightly frosted motifs stand apart from deeply mirrored fields with outstanding eye appeal throughout.

Variety: WB-101, the only die marriage for the issue.

Population Data (9/15): This PR68 coin is tied with one other example for finest at NGC. The top-certified submissions at PCGS are three in PR67.

Heritage Commentary: Proof 1883 Seated half dollars had a mintage of 1,039 pieces, and examples are generally available with hundreds of coins certified by NGC and PCGS over the years. Gem examples, however, are challenging, and better-condition coins are rare. The issue's extreme rarity at this top grade level cannot be overstated: Our records indicate this is only the second time a PR68 example has appeared at auction since 1993.

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2007), lot 991. NGC ID# 27UJ, PCGS# 6444

1888 Half Dollar, Attractive PR65
Two in This Grade With CAC Approval



98734 1888 PR65 PCGS. CAC. WB-101. The surfaces of this Gem proof Seated half dollar feature mixed shades of blue and gold. The splendid patina, in concert with glassy fields and minimal contact marks, accounts for the CAC endorsement. Additional lilac hues color the reverse, furthering the appeal.

Variety: WB-101.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 16 Gem proofs and 15 submissions finer. NGC lists 21 PR65 examples and 20 finer. This is one of two with the CAC approval in this grade.

Heritage Commentary: One die pair was used to strike 832 proofs and 12,001 business strike Seated halves in 1888. Breen's *Proof Encyclopedia* reads: "Only one variety seen; date about centered, shield point over r. tip, left base of 1 over r. edge; rev. shield unpolished, left end of scroll broken away."

Provenance: *Globus and Schulman Collections (Stack's, 12/1998)*, lot 1378. NGC ID# 27UR, PCGS# 6449

1889 Half Dollar, PR66
Only 711 Proofs Minted



98735 1889 PR66 PCGS. WB-101. The obverse exhibits ocean-blue, ruby-red, and gold patina, while the reverse is bathed in similar but more pronounced hues. Splendidly preserved, and a delightful addition to a collection of toned 19th century proofs.

Variety: WB-101.

Population Data (8/15): PCGS counts 14 examples in PR66 (two in PR66+) with three submissions finer, while NGC reports 24 in PR66 (five in PR66+, one in PR66 ★) and eight pieces finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1889 is a scarce date with 711 proofs and 12,000 business strikes issued. That proof mintage is relatively small compared to previous dates from the period, which reached as high as 1,355 specimens in 1880.

Provenance: *FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2005)*, lot 7423; *FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2006)*, lot 2796; *FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2008)*, lot 1641. NGC ID# 27UR, PCGS# 6450

1890 Seated Half Dollar, PR67
Important Registry Set Offering



98736 1890 PR67 NGC. CAC. WB-101. The fields of this pristine Superb Gem proof show unlimited depth and essentially unsurpassable preservation. Each side exhibits an off-centered spot of near-brilliance surrounded by shades of rose, violet, and cerulean-blue. The strike definition is full, as expected (but not always found) of a proof strike. This is among the finest examples extant of this late-date Seated half dollar.

Variety: WB-101.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 11 in PR67 (one PR67 ★) and a single PR68 finer. The finest at PCGS are eight in PR67. This piece is among four in PR67 with the green CAC approval, and none are finer.

Heritage Commentary: With a meager mintage of 590 proofs, examples are scarce across all grade levels. The fact that only 12,000 circulation strikes were manufactured in 1890 further spurs demand for the limited number of proofs available. Those assembling top-notch Registry Sets should carefully consider this important offering.

Provenance: *New York Signature* (Heritage, 7/2002), lot 8198; *Long Beach Signature* (Heritage, 9/2002), lot 6880; purchased from Kevin Lipton (5/2007). NGC ID# 27US, PCGS# 6451

1891 Half Dollar, PR63
Toned Final-Year Issue



98737 1891 PR63 PCGS. WB-101. Both sides of this Select proof are fully toned in dramatic hues of violet, blue, and green. While the fields lack the mirroring found on more-brilliant representatives, they maintain a degree of depth and reflectivity. Light, wispy marks occur over the surfaces, but none merit individual mention.

Variety: WB-101. There are no distinct varieties for the issue.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS lists 85 finer submissions.

Heritage Commentary: Following more than a decade of limited half dollar production, the Philadelphia Mint coined 200,000 circulation strikes and 600 proofs in 1891. The proof total is considerably smaller than issues from the earlier low-mintage period, but the availability of business strikes minimizes date pressure on the final-year 1891 Seated half.

Provenance: *George C. Perkins, Esq. Collection* (Stack's, 1/1998), lot 1218. NGC ID# 27UT, PCGS# 6452

BARBER HALF DOLLARS

1892-S Half Dollar, MS65
Amazing Eye Appeal



98738 1892-S MS65 PCGS. CAC. The eye appeal of this Gem is absolutely amazing. On the obverse, light golden-gray centers cede to shades of orange, magenta, violet, and cobalt-blue toward the margins, while the same hues appear blended throughout the reverse. Frosty luster shines through the toning, illuminating nearly full devices with the faintest trace of softness on the eagle's left leg.

Population Data (9/15): There are 13 Gem submissions at PCGS and another nine examples at NGC. Each service shows four coins in higher grades. Four is also the number in this grade with the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: Despite the lower-mintage Barber half issues from the Philadelphia and New Orleans mints, this San Francisco date is about equally as rare as the 1892-O and much more elusive than the 1892-P. CoinFacts estimates 40 examples survive in Gem condition or better, but the certified population seems to indicate that the total could be even smaller.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (11/2008). NGC ID# 24LJ, PCGS# 6464

1893 Barber Half Dollar, MS65
Original Surfaces, CAC-Approved



98739 1893 MS65 PCGS. CAC. This exceptionally lustrous Barber half displays original mint sheen that is apparent even through multiple layers of toning. The obverse features gray, rose, sky-blue, and lavender hues, while the reverse shows a light overlay of golden-brown patina. Well-struck design elements display a touch of incompleteness on the eagle's high points, but each side is devoid of obvious abrasions.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows 19 Gem submissions (one in MS65+) and 12 finer. NGC reports 11 in MS65 and six finer. CAC has awarded the green approval to eight in MS65.

Heritage Commentary: The Philadelphia Mint coined nearly twice as many Barber half dollars in the series' second year of issue compared to the first. But collectors set aside fewer coins as the excitement of the new design wore off, leaving present-day numismatists with a limited supply of high-grade survivors. Gem 1893 halves are rare, especially with the CAC endorsement.

Provenance: Central States Signature (Heritage, 5/2004), lot 7500; Public Auction Sale (Stack's, 11/2004), lot 381. NGC ID# 24LK, PCGS# 6465

**1893-O Half Dollar, MS66
Among the Finest Certified**



98740 1893-O MS66 NGC. Splendid green-gray peripheral toning encircles the lighter silver-gray centers. The strike is razor-sharp, showing no mentionable weakness on either side — a pleasing exception to the rule for O-mint coins. Glowing luster radiates beneath the vibrant patina, enhancing the compelling eye appeal. This virtually pristine Premium Gem Barber half would make a perfect addition to a fine Registry Set.

Population Data (9/15): This Premium Gem is tied with one other example at NGC for finest at that service. The finest at PCGS are five in MS66.

Heritage Commentary: Although not rare in the absolute sense with nearly 1.4 million coins struck, the 1893-O Barber half issue is a condition rarity in high Mint State grades. A look at the population reports reveals that the number of 1893-O halves drops significantly above the MS63 grade level. Only seven MS66 pieces have been certified by both NGC and PCGS combined with none finer. This is an extremely rare opportunity for a collector to obtain one of the finest representatives of this early Barber half.

Provenance: ANA Signature (*Heritage*, 3/2008), lot 702; Long Beach Signature (*Heritage*, 9/2008), lot 2287; *American Numismatic Rarities* (1/2011), lot 1713. NGC ID# 24LL, PCGS# 6466

**1895 Half Dollar, MS66
Conditionally Rare, Popular Date**



98741 1895 MS66 PCGS. CAC. This sharply defined Premium Gem displays full detail on the usually incomplete reverse shield. Pale lilac-gray centers are surrounded by bursts of olive and golden-russet toning with occasional cobalt-blue accents around the obverse borders. The CAC green approval sticker attests to the visual quality that is immediately apparent.

Population Data (9/15): Six submissions in MS66 (three in MS66+) and a single MS67 are the finest at PCGS. NGC reports four in MS66 and none finer. CAC has awarded the green approval label to four in this grade.

Heritage Commentary: The 1895 is a significant, if not mythic date for many collectors because of its connection to the “King of the Morgan Dollars.” The *Mint Director's Report* for that year states that 12,000 Morgan dollars were struck, but researchers now believe that was probably an accounting error. Consequently, the 1.8 million 1895 P-mint Barber halves represent the highest-denomination silver coins struck for circulation at the Mint. The coins circulated extensively, and high-end Premium Gems such as this are rarely encountered.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (8/2004). NGC ID# 24LS, PCGS# 6471

1897 Half Dollar, Gorgeous MS65
Perfect Barber Type Coin



98742 1897 MS65 PCGS. CAC. The surfaces are fully struck throughout, showing dramatic golden and turquoise-blue toning over the obverse. The reverse is frosty and brilliant, accented intermittently by blushes of peripheral reddish-gold. A bevy of small contact marks occurs on Liberty's neck, limiting an even finer grade. Housed in a green label holder with the green CAC approval.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 29 submissions in MS65 with 15 finer. NGC counts 20 Gems and six finer.

Heritage Commentary: Type specialists will have little need to continue their search for the perfect Barber half dollar candidate, as this wonderful Gem ticks all the boxes for such a coin: availability in high grade, attractively toned surfaces, and full design definition throughout.

Provenance: *Central States Signature (Heritage, 5/2004)*, 7516. NGC ID# 24LY, PCGS# 6477

1897-O Half Dollar, MS66
Low-Mintage Key Date
Sole Premium Gem With CAC Approval



98743 1897-O MS66 PCGS. CAC. This key-date Premium Gem Barber half shows the usual softness of strike on Liberty's forecurls and the eagle's claws, as one would expect from a New Orleans coin, but the remaining motifs show good detail. The surfaces display thick, satiny luster, and each side is toned deep smoky gray-rose coloration. There are no overt abrasions on either side. A significant coin for the Barber specialist.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports five grading events in MS66 (one MS66+) and three finer — two in MS67, one in MS68. NGC show three Premium Gems and a single MS68 finer. This is the sole MS66 with a CAC approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: The 1897-O is a highly coveted key date in the series, having a low mintage of 632,000 pieces. The supply of surviving representatives in circulated grades — let alone in Mint State — is scarcely enough to satisfy demand. Premium Gems are extremely rare and seldom appear at auction, generating lots of excitement among series specialists when they do. Watch the bidder cards fly on this one.

Provenance: *Baltimore Signature (Heritage, 7/2003)*, lot 7720. NGC ID# 24LZ, PCGS# 6478

1897-S Half Dollar, Original MS66
Ex: Pittman, San Francisco Key Issue



98744 1897-S MS66 NGC. CAC. Ex: Pittman. Golden-gray, violet, and olive tones cover each side of this Premium Gem, showing flashes of brilliance interspersed. The effect will appeal to those who desire originality, as David Lawrence notes that the 1897-S is “very hard to find with original color.” The eye appeal is quite high overall, despite minor softness on the top-right portion of the shield and wing. Magnification is required to discern a few tiny marks beneath the marvelous patina.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows three submissions in MS66, two in MS67, and one in MS68. PCGS enumerates two Premium Gems and five in MS67. CAC has awarded the green approval sticker only to this piece and one other in this grade.

Heritage Commentary: David Akers commented on the 1897-S issue and this coin in particular in his sale of the Pittman Collection:

“The 1897-S has long been considered one of the classic rarities of the series, although in recent years, as we have gained a greater understanding of the relative rarity of some other issues in this series, it has become apparent that some other issues with less ‘tradition’ are actually more rare than the 1897-S. Nevertheless, in Gem condition, the 1897-S Half Dollar still must be considered rare and not many examples match the overall quality and attractiveness of this specimen.”

Provenance: Wayte Raymond; purchased by John Jay Pittman for \$22.50 (1946); Pittman Collection, Part II (David Akers, 5/1998), lot 1602. NGC ID# 24M2, PCGS# 6479

1899 Barber Half Dollar, Frosty MS66
Golden Rims, Brilliant Centers



98745 1899 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Sunburst toning at the rims of this Premium Gem frames frosty, nearly brilliant interiors on both sides. Every design feature is sharply struck, including Liberty's forecurls, the eagle's talons, and the fletchings. Even the olive leaves show well-delineated veins. Unsurprisingly for a Premium Gem, marks are scant; the only mentionable flaw is a tiny tick at the top of Liberty's cap.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS data show nine MS66 submissions (two in MS66+) and two finer in MS67. NGC reports seven Premium Gems and none finer. Four in this grade have the CAC green approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: The 1899 is an available date in most grades, though David Lawrence suspected that circulated examples were heavily melted between 1979 and 1980 when the Hunt brothers drove the price of silver to previously unseen levels. Examples of this P-mint issue are collectible through Choice condition, while Gems prove challenging. In Premium Gem, the 1899 is very rare, and we have only offered a single MS67 representative since the creation of our Auction Archives 22 years ago.

Provenance: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (4/2006). NGC ID# 24M6, PCGS# 6483

1900-S Half Dollar, MS66
Marvelous Antique Surfaces
Sole CAC Example in This Grade



98746 1900-S MS66 PCGS. CAC. Light golden-gray patina graces both sides, overlying brilliant, powdery blue surfaces. The stars, claws, and fletchings are needle-sharp, though mild strike softness affects the central motifs. This Premium Gem has clearly been well-cared for, and the antique surfaces should appeal to bidders who prize originality.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS accounts for three submissions in MS66 and a single MS67+ finer. NGC data show two MS66 and a lone MS67 finer. This is the sole CAC example in this grade.

Heritage Commentary: The mintage of 2.5 million coins for the 1900-S Barber half issue is unremarkable in itself, but it is useful in highlighting how rare Gems truly are. Like other S-mint issues, the 1900-S suffered a high rate of attrition, and the original production of 2.5 million coins has been whittled down to just a few thousand survivors. All Uncirculated representatives are scarce (David Lawrence rated the issue R.5 in Mint State in 1991), Gems are very rare, and Premium Gems are extreme rarities. Collectors holding out for one of two in MS67 should be prepared to wait as long as five years based on past trends, not to mention the additional resources that will be required to procure a finer example.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (6/2003). NGC ID# 57PC, PCGS# 6488

1902-S Half Dollar, Clean MS64
Seldom Seen in This Grade



98747 1902-S MS64 NGC. CAC. Deep purple and russet patina appears mainly in the protected areas, while the more exposed surfaces feature light golden-gray hues with bursts of original mint brilliance. Stars 11 to 13 exhibit faint incompleteness, as do the typical design elements on the reverse. The eye appeal is outstanding on this piece, housed in a prior generation NGC holder.

Population Data (9/15): NCG counts five submissions in MS64 with 11 finer, while PCGS lists seven so graded and 17 finer. This piece is among three in this grade with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: David Lawrence's *Complete Guide to Barber Halves* (1991) ranked the 1902-S as R.5 in Mint State. Today's certification totals show the date to be slightly more available in Uncirculated condition than originally thought, but the vast majority of examples grade no higher than MS63. Choice representatives are rare.

Provenance: W.R. Walling Collection (*Stack's*, 3/1996), lot 460. NGC ID# 24MH, PCGS# 6494

1902-S Half Dollar, MS66
A Top-Tier CAC Survivor



98748 1902-S MS66 PCGS. CAC. Ex: Queller. This high-end Premium Gem Barber half offers well-defined devices with glistening mint frost beneath speckled russet and olive-gold toning. Unlike some Uncirculated survivors, this beautifully preserved example comes free of roller marks.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports eight submissions in MS66 with three in MS67 (two in MS67+) and none finer. NGC shows five in MS66 and a single MS67 finer. Four in MS66 have the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: The “wants of trade” necessitated an increased supply of silver subsidiary coins in 1902, but the majority of resources were still being directed toward the production of Morgan dollars. In his *Annual Report* of that year, Mint Director George E. Roberts wrote: “I beg ... that the provision of law which requires the coinage of 1,500,000 of silver dollars per month be repealed and that the balance of this bullion be held for subsidiary coinage.” The San Francisco Mint struck 1.4 million Barber halves in 1902, and most ended up in circulation. This Premium Gem is in the top echelon of survivors among the few dozen Mint State examples graded.

Provenance: Queller Family Collection of U.S. Half Dollars (*Stack's*, 10/2002), lot 774; Long Beach Signature (*Heritage*, 6/2005), lot 6343. NGC ID# 24MH, PCGS# 6494

1905 Half Dollar, Deeply Toned MS66
Tied for Finest at NGC



98749 1905 MS66 NGC. This Premium Gem offers deep shades of gold, rose, and olive patina covering surfaces exhibiting boldly struck design motifs. Vibrant luster shines through. Each side is carefully preserved with no discernible imperfections other than a few shallow, wispy grazes.

Population Data (9/15): Five submissions in MS66 are tied for finest at NGC. Curiously, however, PCGS reports eight in MS66 (one in MS66+) with two in MS67 and one in MS68+ finer.

Heritage Commentary: After Morgan dollar production ceased in 1904, the Barber half dollar became the largest silver denomination struck at the various mints in 1905. Both the cessation of silver dollar coinage in 1904 and limited half dollar production in 1905 were direct results of the exhaustion of silver bullion deposits. From the 1905 *Mint Director's Report*: “... there is practically no bullion in the mints and the stock of subsidiary coin is low ...” Only 662,000 halves were coined at the Philadelphia Mint in 1905, representing one of the lowest totals in the series.

Provenance: *Superior* (8/2006), lot 245. NGC ID# 28PX, PCGS# 6501

1905-O Half Dollar, MS67
A Condition Census Example



98750 1905-O MS67 NGC. Lime-green and ice-blue borders merge with beautiful violet-gray centers on each side, while the reverse adds accents of peach-orange and russet toning. The strike is typical for the Southern branch mint, showing softness at the juncture of the right shield corner and wing, the leg feathers, and claws. Radiant luster and pristine surfaces heighten the appeal of this important Superb Gem offering.

Population Data (9/15): Two grading events in MS67 and one in MS68 are the finest at NGC. PCGS also reports two in MS67 and two in MS68 finer.

Heritage Commentary: This New Orleans issue claims the second-lowest production total from the Louisiana facility after the 1892-O (505,000 versus 390,000 coins). Examples are extremely rare in this lofty grade, and this Superb Gem is in elite company where comparably graded pieces are concerned. In fact, only the Eliasberg and Duckor/Akers examples, and another MS68 NGC coin are reported finer. This Superb Gem ranks high in the Condition Census, likely tied for fourth place.

Provenance: *Purchased from Bill Nagle (6/2002).* NGC ID# 24MS, PCGS# 6502

1906 Half Dollar, MS65
Razor-Sharp Strike Definition



98751 1906 MS65 PCGS. The defining feature of this lovely Gem is its virtually full strike. The stars and hair strands are complete, and the right shield corners shows all horizontal lines. Even the wrinkles on the eagle's right claw are delineated. Golden-olive and lilac-gray hues prevail over each side. A couple of small, linear marks on Liberty's cheek are the only mentionable flaws.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 25 submissions in MS65 (one in MS65+) with six finer. NGC lists 16 Gem submissions and a single MS66 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The availability of this P-mint issue through Gem condition makes it a perfect candidate for type purposes, though anything finer is extremely rare. That this particular coin is nearly fully struck makes it all the more suitable as a representative of the Barber half dollar design.

Provenance: *Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (11/2007).* NGC ID# 24MU, PCGS# 6504

1906-O Half Dollar, Gorgeous MS66
Akers: 'Very Underrated Issue'
Third on the Condition Census



98752 1906-O MS66 PCGS. CAC. The strike on this Premium Gem is exceptionally strong for an O-mint coin, especially on the obverse. Typical blending occurs over the right shield corner, the eagle's leg feathers, and fletchings, just as it does on Philadelphia, Denver, and San Francisco representatives. Ice-blue and mint-green peripheries encompass rose, gold, and orange centers that show glimpses of brilliance. Immaculately preserved.

Population Data (9/15): There are 12 MS66 grading events at PCGS and seven (two in MS66+) at NGC. Only three coins are finer, all in MS67 PCGS holders (two in MS67+). Seven in MS66 have the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: Perhaps 10% of the population of 1906-O half dollars survives in Uncirculated condition (200 coins out of 2,000 survivors, per CoinFacts). That percentage is reduced even further to just 2% in MS65 or better. David Akers noted that "this is a very underrated issue, one that is more rare, especially in Gem condition, than the 1905-O which had a mintage of only a little more than one fifth as great." Tied for third on the Condition Census.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (11/2009). NGC ID# 24MW, PCGS# 6506

1906-S Half Dollar, MS65
Rarely Seen in Gem or Better



98753 1906-S MS65 NGC. The surfaces are coated in powder-blue, peach-orange, lavender, and violet-gray iridescence, providing this Gem Barber half with great visual quality. The deep, uniform toning hides most abrasions, while occasional tiny ticks can be seen with a loupe. The only blemish of note is a small reeding mark on Liberty's jaw. Well-struck with softness restricted to the right shield corner, leg feathers, and right claw.

Population Data (6/15): NGC shows 10 MS65s, three MS66s, and one each in MS67, MS68, and MS69(!). PCGS has seen 11 Gems and nine finer coins.

Heritage Commentary: The 1906-S (1.7 million coins struck) is a conditionally rare issue in Gem or better. Most examples circulated widely, and the average certified representative grades a tad over XF45. Remarkably, one 1906-S was at one time certified in the seemingly impossible grade of MS69. Although that coin is still recorded at NGC, it has since been crossed over into an MS68 PCGS holder. It now resides in the Dr. and Mrs. Shireman PCGS Registry Set and is, according to Dr. Shireman's notes, the only MS69 Barber half ever certified as such at either NGC or PCGS.

Provenance: Elite Coin Auction (Superior, 7/2003), lot 1181. NGC ID# 24MX, PCGS# 6507

1907 Half Dollar, Brilliant Gem



98754 1907 MS65 PCGS. Bright silvery surfaces are virtually devoid of even a hint of toning, giving this Gem the appearance of a freshly minted coin. Frosty luster swirls over well-struck design features. A few minor milling marks and microscopic ticks define the grade.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS counts 30 Premium Gems and six finer submissions, while NGC reports 21 in MS66 and three finer.

Heritage Commentary: Barber half dollar output at the Philadelphia Mint leveled off at just under 2.6 million coins in 1907. Examples are typically found in MS62 to MS64, and the number of available representatives falls off markedly from that point up. Gems are rare, and anything finer is prohibitively so for all but the most well-resourced collectors.

Provenance: *Purchased directly from Heritage (9/2012).* NGC ID# 24MY, PCGS# 6508

1907 Barber Half, Lustrous MS65
Conditionally Rare 'Sleeper' Issue
Seldom Seen Finer



98755 1907 MS65 NGC. CAC. Splashes of golden-tan, powder-blue, and stone-gray embrace this lustrous Gem Barber half. The reverse is carefully preserved, and the obverse displays only infrequent, trivial contact. The strike is good with minor blending limited to the fletchings and right shield corner.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows 21 submissions in MS65 (one MS65+) and three finer — all MS66. PCGS records 30 Gem submissions (two in MS65+) with six in higher grades — five in MS66 and a sole MS67+ as the finest. CAC has given the green approval to six Gems including this piece.

Heritage Commentary: Like several other P-mint issues in the Barber half dollar series, the 1907 fails to attract the attention it rightfully deserves. While a mintage of 2.6 million pieces may seem unremarkable, a quick glance at the certified population totals paints a picture of an issue that is rarely encountered in Gem condition and is extremely rare in MS66 or finer.

Provenance: *Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2011), lot 3743.* NGC ID# 24MY, PCGS# 6508

1907 Half Dollar, MS66
One Coin Graded Finer



98756 1907 MS66 PCGS. CAC. This Premium Gem displays scattered areas of toning, primarily at the outer edges, in hues including tan, plum-gray, and teal. Aside from the mottled patina, each side is mostly brilliant with swirling mint frost. Portions of the eagle exhibit minor incompleteness of strike, while the obverse is pinpoint-sharp throughout.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports five submissions in MS66 with a sole MS67+ finer. NGC shows three in MS66 and none finer. CAC has given the green approval to four in MS66.

Heritage Commentary: Despite a mintage approaching 2.6 million examples, there are few survivors of the 1907 Barber half issue at the upper grade ranges. This is one of two MS66 representatives in the Gardner Collection. The other coin realized \$7,637.50 during the sale of Part I of the Gardner Collection (Heritage, 6/2014), lot 30563.

Provenance: U.S. Coins Auction (Heritage, 11/2013), lot 3631. NGC ID# 24MY, PCGS# 6508

1907-D Half Dollar, Sharp MS66
Glimmering Satin Luster



98757 1907-D MS66 PCGS. Golden-lilac patina prevails over each side, complemented by iridescent powder-blue and peach-orange accents. Glimmering satin luster emanates from underneath the toning, illuminating strongly detailed devices. Notably, the shield lines are fully delineated, and the fletchings are nearly complete. Minute ticks on Liberty's cap prohibit an even higher grade.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS lists 14 submissions in MS66 (two in MS66+) and three in MS67 (one MS67+) finer. NGC reports five MS66 submissions, two in MS67, and one MS68.

Heritage Commentary: More than 3.8 million half dollars were struck in Colorado during the Denver Mint's second year of operation. Hundreds of Mint State pieces have reached the certification services, yet the population dwindles rapidly at this lofty grade level.

Provenance: Central States Signature (Heritage, 5/2005), lot 7268; purchased from David Hall (5/2006). NGC ID# 24MZ, PCGS# 6509

1907-D Half Dollar, MS66+
Colorful Rim Toning



98758 1907-D MS66+ PCGS Secure. CAC. Both the Plus designation and CAC approval sticker confirm the exceptional quality of this amazing Premium Gem. Rings of amber, rose, blue, green, and red-orange rim toning encircle golden-gray, satiny centers. The strike definition is nearly full, save for the faintest trace of softness on the eagle's right wing near the shield, as usual.

Population Data (9/15): Only two of 14 MS66 submissions at PCGS have been awarded a Plus designation. There are three finer Superb Gems (one MS67+). NGC has seen five Premium Gems and three finer examples — two in MS67, one in MS68. CAC has given its green approval label to 10 in MS66 and four finer.

Heritage Commentary: Ranked fifth on the PCGS Condition Census, this MS66+ coin comes from an original mintage of 3.8 million pieces. The Gardner Collection also contained the sole finest 1907-D half, certified MS68 NGC, previously from the Pittman Collection. That coin realized an impressive \$25,850 during our Gardner Collection, Part I sale (Heritage, 6/2014), lot 30564.

Provenance: Purchased from Joseph O'Connor (5/2012). NGC ID# 24MZ, PCGS# 6509

1909-S Half Dollar, MS66
Sunset-Orange Patina



98759 1909-S MS66 PCGS. CAC. This high-end coin is sharply struck and shows not even a single distracting abrasion. Sunset-orange surfaces feature abundant underlying luster in the fields. Like virtually all S-mint Barber half dollars, this issue is scarce not only in Gem condition, but across the board in Mint State. Housed in a first-generation small-size PCGS holder.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports seven in MS66 (one MS66+) and seven finer in MS67 (one MS67+). The top submissions at NGC are six MS66 (one MS66+). CAC has given a green sticker to four MS66 submissions.

Heritage Commentary: Produced in respectable numbers (1.7 million pieces), the 1909-S was apparently not widely saved at the time of issue. As a result, Uncirculated representatives are difficult to locate, especially with surfaces as pristine as this Premium Gem.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2006), lot 1359; purchased from Bill Nagle (8/2006). NGC ID# 24NA, PCGS# 6518 Base PCGS# 6518

1911-D Half Dollar, MS65
Semiprooflike Surfaces



98760 1911-D MS65 NGC. CAC. Specks of gold and olive toning dot the obverse rims, leaving the interiors fully brilliant on that side. The reverse is similarly bright and silvery with uniform pearl-gray patina overall and russet hues near the upper border. This early strike from fresh dies shows prominent die polish lines and a semiprooflike appearance. A well-struck Gem overall, despite minor incompleteness restricted to stars 11 and 12, and the usual areas on the reverse.

Population Data (9/15): NGC records 15 submitted in MS65, five in MS66, and a lone MS67. PCGS shows 22 in MS65 (one MS65+) and 12 finer, including in MS67 tied for finest.

Heritage Commentary: The Denver Mint manufactured 695,080 half dollars in 1911, and the issue is accessible across most of the grade spectrum. Only in Gem condition does it become rare, where fewer than 60 coins are reported in MS65 or better at the leading certification firms.

Provenance: George "Buddy" Byers Collection of U. S. Half Dollars, 1795-1964 (*Stack's*, 10/2006), lot 1378. NGC ID# 24NE, PCGS# 6522

1912-D Half Dollar, MS66
Among the Finest Certified



98761 1912-D MS66 PCGS. CAC. This lustrous high-grade Barber type coin in Premium Gem grade displays vibrant luster and dappled orange-gold, forest-green, and stone-gray toning. The cheekbone shows a few light russet freckles, and the surfaces are pristine, aside for a single wispy graze on Liberty's neck.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows 16 MS66 submissions (one in MS66+) tied atop the *Population Report*. Similarly, NGC has seen nine Premium Gems (one MS66+) and none finer. CAC reports 11 in this grade with the green approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1912-D (2.3 million coins struck) is known as a common issue in lesser grades. However, examples are rarely found at this lofty level, and three decades after the introduction of the major third party certification services, MS66+ remains the highest grade awarded.

Provenance: FUN Signature (*Heritage*, 1/2005), lot 30226; FUN Signature (*Heritage*, 1/2012), lot 3691; purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (1/2012). NGC ID# 24NH, PCGS# 6525

1913-D Barber Half Dollar, MS65
Overlooked in High Grades



98762 1913-D MS65 PCGS. CAC. This Gem Barber half is awash in radiant cartwheel luster with a thin coating of golden-gray over brilliant surfaces. The strike shows minor softness on several stars, Liberty's forecurl, and the eagle's right wing and talon. However, the overall impression is bold, and so is the eye appeal.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 12 submissions in MS65 with four in MS66 and none finer. NGC has seen 17 MS65 submissions, six in MS66, and a single MS67. Only three Gems have been awarded a green CAC approval sticker.

Heritage Commentary: The average certified grade for this lower-mintage Denver issue is marginally better than AU50. Nevertheless, examples are readily obtainable through the MS64 grade level. The certified total drops precipitously in Gem condition, where the 1913-D becomes a notable condition rarity. From a mintage of 534,000 coins, this issue is generally overlooked in high grades, though specialists will recognize its importance.

Provenance: Baltimore Auction (Bowers and Merena, 11/2007), lot 2328. NGC ID# 24NL, PCGS# 6528

1915 Half Dollar, MS65
Conditionally Rare Low-Mintage Date



98763 1915 MS65 PCGS. CAC. This Gem displays luminous luster issuing from well-preserved surfaces veiled in lavender-gray, olive, and golden-tan patina. The strike is a touch light, but this remains an inarguably original and appealing late-series conditional rarity. Housed in an old green label holder with a "green bean" sticker from CAC.

Population Data (9/15): This Gem is among 16 in MS65 at PCGS (one MS65+) with four examples finer. NGC reports five MS65 submissions and a single MS66 finer. Four in MS65 have the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: The Barber series closes with three low-mintage Philadelphia issues: the 1913, 1914, and 1915. This key date claims a mintage of just 138,000 pieces (second-lowest in the series), and according to *The Complete Guide to Barber Halves* it is "the toughest of the three in most better grades, including MS." A high-end condition rarity worthy of consideration.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (12/2009). NGC ID# 24NR, PCGS# 6532

1915-S Half Dollar, MS64
Early NGC Holder, CAC Approval



98764 1915-S MS64 NGC. CAC. Aside from small daubs of russet patina on each side, the surfaces of this Choice Barber half are brilliant with vibrant mint frost shimmering throughout. Inconsequential strike softness occurs on the eagle's neck, right claw, and the top-right corner of the shield, but the motifs are otherwise boldly detailed. Housed in a former generation holder.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows 55 submissions in higher grades; PCGS shows 54 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Walter Breen's *Encyclopedia* reported that five rolls of Uncirculated 1915-S Barber halves surfaced in 1957. Examining the certified totals in 1991, David Lawrence explained that the coins probably "have not yet been certified." Yet today, the certification figures could well reflect several Mint State rolls. The 1915-S is easily the most available S-mint issue in the series and an appropriate date for type purposes.

Provenance: W.R. Walling Collection (*Stack's*, 3/1996), lot 461. NGC ID# 24NT, PCGS# 6534

PROOF BARBER HALF DOLLARS

1902 Half Dollar, Brilliant PR66
Bold White-on-Black Contrast
Ex: Childs Family Collection



98765 1902 PR66 PCGS. Ex: Childs Collection. Distinct white-on-black contrast characterizes each side of this Premium Gem proof, although inexplicably PCGS has not awarded a Cameo designation. The surfaces are almost fully brilliant, aside for tinges of golden-russet toning around the peripheries. Minimally marked fields are profoundly mirrored, and the eye appeal is undeniable.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 29 grading events in PR66 (three in PR66+) and eight, all in PR67, finer. NGC shows 33 in PR66, 17 in PR67 (three PR67 ★), and two in PR68.

Heritage Commentary: The Mint implemented a brilliant finish for proofs in 1902 and following years; examples with notable cameo contrast are decided rarities. This Premium Gem proof, from a mintage of 777 pieces, appears boldly contrasted, even though it is undesignated as such. Nevertheless, this is an eye-catching representative with an impressive pedigree.

Provenance: Purchased directly from the Philadelphia Mint by Walter H. and C.F. Childs; Childs Family Collection (*Bowers and Merena*, 8/1999), lot 406. NGC ID# 24P6, PCGS# 6549

1903 Barber Half Dollar, PR63
CAC-Approved Visual Appeal



98766 1903 PR63 NGC. CAC. The proof strike provides razor-sharp definition on the devices, while a dusky layer of gunmetal-blue, olive, and rose patina covers the surfaces of this pleasing Select proof. Each side is minimally contrasted — a result of the brilliant finish used to strike proofs between 1902 and 1907. Wispy polish lines appear on Liberty's cheek and neck, but there is little evidence of post-Mint contact.

Population Data (9/15): Between the two leading services, more than 300 grading events are finer than this Select proof, which nonetheless provides a comfortable entry point to the proof Barber halves among the budget-conscious.

Heritage Commentary: The 1903 is among the more accessible proof Barber half dollar dates, from a production of 755 coins. But the rarity of high-grade circulation strikes strengthens demand for the more available proofs.

Provenance: *Purchased directly from Stack's (6/1995).* NGC ID# 24P7, PCGS# 6550

1909 Half Dollar, PR67
Virtually Pristine With Lovely Toning



98767 1909 PR67 NGC. Glints of pumpkin-gold, blue, rose, and olive patina surround mostly brilliant, thickly frosted central design elements. The field-device contrast is partially muted by the multihued toning, while the fields appear limitless. There are no mentionable marks on either side, unsurprising given the nearly unimprovable grade of this Superb Gem proof.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 17 examples in PR67 and seven submissions finer, while PCGS lists 10 in PR67 (one PR67+) and two in PR68 finer.

Heritage Commentary: A total of 650 proof Barber half dollars were coined at Philadelphia in 1909, and the typical survivor grades PR64. The issue becomes rare at the Premium Gem level, and comparably graded representatives rarely come up at auction.

Provenance: *Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (11/1999).* NGC ID# 24PD, PCGS# 6556

1911 Half Dollar, PR64
Third-Lowest Proof Mintage



98768 1911 PR64 PCGS. CAC. Draped in delicate golden-amber and lavender-rose patina, this Choice proof possesses excellent eye appeal, as suggested by the CAC endorsement. The lighter-toned motifs stand out against the glassy, richly colored fields, enhancing the aesthetic quality. Small stray marks occur primarily in the obverse fields.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS has seen 57 proofs finer, while NGC records 77 finer submissions.

Heritage Commentary: Only 543 proof Barber half dollars were struck in 1911, making this the third-lowest-mintage issue in the 24-date set after the 1914 and 1915. According to CoinFacts, the 1911 is the also the third-scarcest issue overall, corresponding to its low mintage.

Provenance: *Numisma '95 (Stack's session, 11/1995), lot 1290.* NGC ID# 24PF, PCGS# 6558

1911 Half Dollar, PR67
Amazing Color and Preservation
Gold CAC, Old Green Holder



98769 1911 PR67 PCGS. Gold CAC. The preservation and eye appeal of this Superb Gem proof generate a sense of wonder that would be difficult to replicate, let alone surpass. Straw-gold and mint-green rims encircle cobalt-blue, magenta, rose, lavender, and amber toning over the central areas. Flawlessly preserved without a mark of note. Housed in an old green label holder with a gold CAC approval sticker.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports eight submissions in PR67, four in PR68, and one in PR69. NGC shows 11 in PR67 (one PR67+, one PR67 ★), seven in PR68 (two PR68 ★), and one PR69. Only seven Barber half dollar proofs in the entire series have been awarded a gold CAC sticker. This is the only 1911 example, and it is the sole finest proof by two grade points with such a designation.

Heritage Commentary: Gold CAC approval stickers are awarded to coins believed to be undergraded by one full grade point, at minimum. Only one out of approximately 500 submissions (0.2%) is given a prized gold sticker. This example, from a mintage of 543 proofs, is undoubtedly among the best-preserved, most appealing representatives we have ever offered, likely one of the finest 1911 proof half dollars extant.

Provenance: *Purchased from Stewart Blay (11/1999).* NGC ID# 24PF, PCGS# 6558

1912 Half Dollar, PR67
Two Proofs Finer at PCGS



98770 1912 PR67 PCGS. Both sides of this visually impressive Superb Gem are impeccably preserved and veiled in mottled iridescent toning. The patina is just light enough to allow the underlying flashy mirrors to forcefully shine through.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS and NGC each reports nine PR67 submissions, with one each at the latter having the Plus and Star designations. There are two finer at PCGS and six at NGC.

Heritage Commentary: This Condition Census proof is among the best-preserved examples from a generous production of 700 specimens. Despite the high mintage, PCGS rates the 1912 as one of the most challenging issues in Gem condition or better, along with the significantly lower-mintage 1915.

Provenance: *New York Signature (Heritage, 11/2003), lot 6841; Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 9/2004), lot 6743; purchased from Bill Nagle (9/2004).* NGC ID# 24PG, PCGS# 6559

1914 Barber Half Dollar, PR64
380 Proofs Struck
Lowest Mintage of the Series



98771 1914 PR64 PCGS. Colorful toning throughout this Choice proof includes shades of yellow, green, gold, lavender, and indigo. Lightly patinated devices and richly toned, deeply mirrored fields give each side a moderate cameo appearance. Minor contact occurs beneath the lavish toning on both sides.

Population Data (9/15): There are 61 and 88 finer submissions at PCGS and NGC, respectively.

Heritage Commentary: This sought-after date has the lowest mintages in both proof and circulation strike format within the entire Barber half dollar set. Just 380 proofs were minted alongside the 124,230 P-mint business strikes. Budget-minded collectors looking to fill this key date in their set with a high-quality coin should definitively consider this offering.

Provenance: *67th Anniversary Sale (Stack's, 10/2002), lot 836.* NGC ID# 24PJ, PCGS# 6561

1914 Half Dollar, PR67
Flawless, Colorfully Toned Surfaces



98772 1914 PR67 NGC. CAC. The obverse of this incredible Superb Gem proof is awash in iridescent rose, magenta, and purple toning with glints of sea-green, ice-blue, and gold. The reverse displays similar blue and green hues over the motifs, while purple and rose complement the deeply reflective fields. No mentionable marks appear, even after close study.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows 14 submissions in PR67 (one PR67+) and two finer, both PR68. The finest at PCGS are 13 in PR67 (two PR67+). CAC has approved eight in PR67 and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1914 lays claim to the smallest proof mintage among all Barber half dollars with a meager production of just 380 specimens. Remarkably, that total is 70 pieces lower than the second-lowest mintage accomplished one year later, in 1915. The issue ranks third-rarest in the series in PR65 or better condition.

Provenance: *Purchased from Larry Shepherd (8/2006).* NGC ID# 24PJ, PCGS# 6561

1915 Half Dollar, PR65
Small Mintage of 450 Proofs



98773 1915 PR65 PCGS. CAC. Sky-blue, forest-green, and amber hues complement lavender-rose coloration overall. This Gem proof Barber half displays fully detailed devices (as expected) surrounded by substantially mirrored fields. Contact marks are microscopic and of no importance.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS records 14 in PR65 (one PR65+) and 29 finer submissions, while NGC has seen 25 Gem proofs and 43 finer.

Heritage Commentary: A final-year issue, the 1915 Barber half dollar claims a small mintage of only 450 proofs — the second-lowest total among 24 proof dates in the series. Nevertheless, proofs are obtainable for a price through PR66, making this a perfect alternative to the conditionally rare, low-mintage circulation strikes coined at Philadelphia (only 138,000 pieces).

Provenance: *67th Anniversary Sale (Stack's, 10/2002), lot 839.* NGC ID# 24PK, PCGS# 6562

1915 Half Dollar, PR67
Tied for Finest at PCGS



98774 1915 PR67 PCGS. CAC. Iridescent toning in shades of blue, green, yellow, orange, rose, and violet embraces immaculately preserved surfaces, but the patina does not minimize the field reflectivity. The resulting eye appeal, affirmed by the CAC endorsement, is immediately apparent. Essentially unmarked.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS data report 13 submissions in PR67 (two PR67+) and none finer. NGC enumerates 17 in PR67 (two PR67+, two PR67 ★, one PR67+ ★) and six PR68 (one PR68 ★) finer. At the PR67 level, CAC has awarded its green approval label to 12 pieces, including this coin.

Heritage Commentary: The 1915 Barber half is among the most challenging series issues in business-strike format. Only 138,000 pieces were minted, and they are conditionally rare at the Gem grade level. As such, many collectors opt for high-end proof representatives instead. Although just 450 proofs were struck, examples can be found through Premium Gem condition. Superb Gems such as this piece seldom appear at auction, and few can match the eye appeal of the proof offered here.

Provenance: Purchased from Bill Nagle (9/2003). NGC ID# 24PK, PCGS# 6562

WALKING LIBERTY HALF DOLLAR

1933-S Half Dollar, MS67
A Top Registry Contender
None Certified Finer



98775 1933-S MS67 PCGS. CAC. Variegated ocean-blue, violet, and golden-brown shades paint this highly lustrous, strongly struck Superb Gem. The skirt lines and branch hand are exceptionally sharp for a Walking Liberty half, particularly one from the San Francisco Mint. Careful examination turns up only a couple of minute marks in line with the MS67 designation.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 14 in MS67 (one MS67+) and none finer. NGC data account for eight in MS67 (two MS67+). CAC has awarded a green sticker to eight MS67 coins.

Heritage Commentary: The 1933-S is a scarce issue in any Mint State grade, and examples are seldom encountered above the MS65 level. Many collectors of the day could not afford to set aside a half dollar during this Depression year, and others instead concentrated on keeping up with the many commemorative half dollar issues.

Provenance: ANA National Money Show Signature (Heritage, 3/2007), lot 1043; ANA Signature (Heritage, 8/2007), lot 1706; purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (12/2007). NGC ID# 24RE, PCGS# 6591

SEATED DOLLARS

1840 Seated Dollar, MS63
Richly Patinated First-Year Coin



98776 1840 MS63 NGC. This outstanding Select Uncirculated first-year Seated dollar shows bold design definition throughout save for a bit of incompleteness on the reverse at the eagle's left (facing) leg. Dusky violet-gray toning cedes to shades of blue, green, and russet around the margins. Scattered marks appearing on both sides are generally difficult to discern beneath the rich patina.

Population Data (9/15): There are eight MS63s (one MS63 ★), two MS64s, and none finer at NGC. PCGS reports 10 in MS63 with three MS64 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Curiously, the Seated dollars of 1840 (61,005 coins minted) were little saved at the time of issue. This deviation from the normal rule of squirreling away first-year representatives could be a reflection of the "Hard Times" era in which they were struck, per Bowers (1993). It could also reflect another economic reality: A dollar in silver was only worth about \$1.01 in gold throughout most of the 1840s, so the coins remained in circulation instead of being hoarded or melted, accounting for their prevalence in circulated grades. The *Silver Dollar Encyclopedia* comments: "In true Mint State the 1840 is exceedingly rare, and very few have a claim to MS-63 or higher grade."

Provenance: Purchased from *U.S. Coins* (10/2007). NGC ID# 24YA, PCGS# 6926

1846 Dollar, MS64
'Exceedingly Rare' in This Grade



98777 1846 MS64 NGC. Mottled golden-olive and russet patina embraces each side of this attractive near-Gem Seated dollar. Trivial softness occurs on Liberty's head and the eagle's neck feathers, while the other design elements are crisply rendered. Marks are virtually unseen without magnification.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 22 grading events in MS64 (one in MS64+) and three finer. PCGS shows 23 in MS64 (two MS64+) and two finer, both MS65.

Heritage Commentary: As is the case with the 1841, 1843, and 1847, this No Motto issue is readily collectible in circulated and lower Mint State grades, with the average certified survivor between XF45 and AU50. The 1846, struck to the extent of 110,600 coins, becomes a noteworthy condition rarity at the near-Gem level, as detailed in Bowers' *Silver Dollar Encyclopedia*: "Echoing the situation of 1843, the 1846 dollar is common in worn grades but is rare in Mint State, and is exceedingly rare in grades of MS-64 or higher."

Provenance: *American Numismatic Rarities* (10/2008), lot 417. NGC ID# 24YH, PCGS# 6932

1847 Dollar, MS63
Problem-Free, Lightly Toned



98778 1847 MS63 NGC. CAC. Ex: La Jolla Collection. Golden-gray and powder-blue hues coalesce over the lightly abraded surfaces. The stars show nearly full radial lines, while Liberty's head, the date, and the eagle's wing feathers exhibit a degree of softness. A series of small grade-limiting ticks congregate in the fields below STATES OF. This is a delightful Select representative with attractive, problem-free surfaces.

Population Data (9/15): One of 22 Select submissions at NGC with 10 finer. PCGS also reports 22 in MS63 with 15 finer examples. CAC has endorsed two in MS63 and two finer, both MS65.

Heritage Commentary: Demand for high-denomination silver was strong in 1847, as bullion depositors requested a total of 140,750 dollars in that year. The 1847 is among the most available No Motto issues in circulated grades, but it proves far more of a challenge in Mint State — especially with original patina and minimally distracting abrasions, as seen on this coin.

Provenance: Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (10/2007). NGC ID# 24YJ, PCGS# 6934

1857 Seated Dollar, MS64
Nearly Unobtainable Finer



98779 1857 MS64 PCGS. This moderately prooflike Seated dollar displays streaks of light autumn-gold toning over otherwise brilliant surfaces. The fields and devices are surprisingly free from marks, and a thin nick on the D in UNITED is a convenient pedigree identifier. Liberty's hair and the eagle's neck are typically brought up, although much of the design is well-struck.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS has seen seven near-Gems, two Gems, and none finer. NGC shows 16 Choice submissions (one MS64 ★) with two Premium Gems finer.

Heritage Commentary: In MS64, the 1857 is among the more available issues in the Seated dollar series, but it remains an important condition rarity at that level. Further, it appears far less frequently than the 1859-O, 1860, or 1860-O, for example. Silver dollar output amounted to 94,000 coins in 1857, and most of those were shipped to San Francisco, exported to China, and eventually melted or otherwise lost through attrition.

Provenance: ANA National Money Show Signature (Heritage, 3/2007), lot 924. NGC ID# 24YW, PCGS# 6945

1859-S Dollar, MS62
First San Francisco Silver Dollar Issue



98780 1859-S MS62 NGC. Breen-5462. This is a remarkably preserved, conditionally rare Seated dollar. Each side is draped in a veil of vibrant orange, magenta, blue, and violet patina with bright, semiprooflikeness apparent in the fields. The overall impression is strong despite typical softness over Liberty's head, the upper stars, and the eagle's wingtips. A number of light, wispy abrasions in the fields and on the devices account for the grade, though their impact on the coin's eye appeal is minor.

Variety: Breen-5462. This is an early die state example of the Breen-5462 variety with repunching on 18 in the date.

Population Data (9/15): NGC and PCGS each report six submissions in MS62, with five finer at NGC and eight finer at PCGS, likely including duplications. The finest are a sole MS65 at NGC and a lone MS64+ at PCGS.

Heritage Commentary: The San Francisco Mint struck its first gold dollar in 1854, the year it opened, but its first silver dollar issue would not come until 1859. The 20,000 Seated dollars struck at the S-mint in 1859 mostly made their way overseas through Sino-American trade channels. The vast majority of surviving representatives from this issue have been heavily worn through attrition, and the existence of Mint State examples is purely the result of chance. The San Francisco branch mint only coined Seated dollars again in 1870, 1872, and 1873 (none known to survive), putting added pressure on this challenging date from mintmark type collectors.

Provenance: Central States Signature (Heritage, 4/2002), lot 4051; Dallas Signature (Heritage, 11/2007), lot 962; purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (4/2008). NGC ID# 24YZ, PCGS# 6948

1867 Seated Dollar, MS64
Large Date Over Small Date



98781 1867 MS64 PCGS. Breen-5478. This is an almost brilliant, partially frosty / partially semiprooflike near-Gem with a well-preserved reverse and a minimally marked obverse. The devices are crisply struck aside from the uppermost stars. A rare business strike variety of this elusive low-mintage issue.

Variety: Breen-5478. Large Date over Small Date. A half dollar logotype was initially punched and subsequently effaced before the correct dollar punch was used. Traces of the prior logotype surround the prominent digits. Bowers posits that the variety "probably formed only a tiny part of the 10,300 delivered on November 22nd."

Population Data (9/15): For all varieties, PCGS shows 11 coins in MS64 and NGC reports 10 in the same grade, and each service reports three in MS65 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Advanced collectors searching for an example of the 1867 Seated dollar in finer condition will quickly recognize the challenge of such a task. The issue was struck to the extent of just 46,900 pieces. Most coins were exported, and survivors are typically encountered in XF to AU condition. Uncirculated coins are all very scarce to rare. Choice representatives are essentially the top-graded pieces most collectors can realistically hope to acquire. A Gem PCGS 1867 silver dollar recently realized \$56,400 during the sale of the Gardner Collection, Part III (Heritage, 5/2015), lot 98569.

Provenance: Greenwich Collection, Part II / Pittsburgh Signature (Heritage, 8/2004), lot 6361; purchased from Alpine Numismatics (9/2009). NGC ID# 24ZA, PCGS# 6960

1872-CC Dollar, MS62

Important Carson City Key Date



98782 1872-CC MS62 NGC. The reverse exhibits pinpoint-sharp definition throughout, while the obverse is well-struck with a bit of softness on Liberty's head. Each side is partly lustrous with slate and golden-gray patina. Abrasions are minimally scattered and undistracting, though the gown shows a few prominent nicks in accordance with the grade.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports only two MS62 submissions and five finer, up to a single MS65. PCGS shows five in MS62 and three finer, also including one in MS65.

Heritage Commentary: Aside from its paltry mintage of 3,150 coins, little is known regarding the reasons behind the issue's scarcity in absolute terms. Melting has been suggested, but coins were struck at the request of bullion depositors, so it is unlikely that any significant quantity was melted. Examples likely served their purpose as mediums of exchange in the West, and were lost through attrition. The frequency with which heavily circulated examples appear at auction supports that theory.

According to the *Silver Dollar Encyclopedia*, the rarity of the issue was recognized in the 1890s, when individuals began plucking the coins out of circulation. In 1893, Augustus Heaton had this to say of the CC-mint Seated dollars: "In 1871, 1872, and 1873 about two thousand Dollars only were coined annually at Carson City, and they are now extremely rare." At the time he wrote, Heaton had never even seen an 1872-CC silver dollar.

Rusty Goe suggests that just 10% of the original mintage survives in all grades. Only 26 Mint State grading events are recorded at NGC and PCGS combined, almost certainly reflecting numerous resubmissions. Probably only 20 or so Uncirculated examples survive, and this piece may very well rank within the Condition Census.

Provenance: Purchased from Bill Nagle (7/2007). NGC ID# 24ZK, PCGS# 6969

PROOF SEATED DOLLARS

1842 Seated Dollar, PR62 Only Eight to 10 Proofs Extant The John Jay Pittman Coin



98783 1842 PR62 PCGS. Ex: Pittman. Each side of this fully mirrored proof Seated dollar offers deeply reflective fields with lightly frosted devices, all beneath translucent champagne-gold toning. Insignificant hairlines and contact marks are visible mostly in the fields. A line near star 2 matches the Pittman plate and identifies the provenance of this piece. The top edge of the left (facing) wing is weak, while the remaining design motifs are needle-sharp.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows one submission each in PR62, PR64, and PR65. NGC reports one PR62 and seven finer. Resubmissions inflate these figures.

Heritage Commentary: The 1842 Seated dollar is a very rare proof issue with perhaps 10 pieces extant. David Akers estimated 10 to 12 pieces survive in the Pittman catalog, while Dave Bowers estimated seven to 14 proofs in his *Silver Dollar Encyclopedia*. We have traced eight individual examples (see roster) plus 10 additional appearances that we are unable to conclusively match to the eight coins on the roster.

Roster of 1842 Proof Seated Dollars

- 1. PR65 NGC.** Oscar Schilke proof set; anonymous intermediary; Central States Signature (Heritage, 4/2012), lot 5003; Eugene H. Gardner Collection, Part III (Heritage, 5/2015), lot 98574.
- 2. PR65 NGC.** Norweb Collection (Bowers and Merena, 11/1988), lot 3780; Phil Kaufman Collection (Heritage, 4/2008), lot 2382; Greensboro Collection, Part IV (Heritage, 8/2013), lot 5708.
- 3. PR63 NGC.** F.C.C. Boyd (World's Greatest Collection, Numismatic Gallery, 1/1945), lot 130; Golden Jubilee Sale (B. Max Mehl, 5/1950), lot 812; Amon G. Carter, Jr. Collection (Stack's, 1/1984), lot 248; David Queller Collection (Heritage, 4/2008), lot 2139. The Carter catalog says his coin was purchased from the Golden Jubilee sale, and that earlier sale states the coin was from the World's Greatest Collection. Another appearance, in the David Golding Collection (Stack's, 6/1952), lot 233, asserts that coin was also from the World's Greatest Collection.
- 4. PR63 NGC.** Sunshine Collection (Superior, 9/2003), lot 2079; Dr. John L. Pellegrini Collection (Heritage, 7/2005), lot 10258; FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2007), lot 1059.
- 5. PR62 PCGS.** Lester Merkin (9/1967), lot 271; Lester Merkin (10/1969), lot 376; John Jay Pittman Collection (David Akers, 5/1998), lot 1673; FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/1999), lot 6950; Sacramento ANA (Heritage, 3/1999), lot 6511; Morris Silverman Collection (Heritage, 4/2002), lot 4072; Bowers and Merena (5/2004), lot 253; Rod Sweet Collection (Bowers and Merena, 7/2005), lot 1003; Denver ANA Auction (Bowers and Merena, 8/2006), lot 2345; Jack Lee Collection (Heritage, 1/2009), lot 3961; Bay State Collection (Heritage, 7/2009), lot 1147; unknown intermediaries; purchased from Duncan Lee (1/2011). **The present coin.**
- 6. PR61 NGC.** Superior (10/1990), lot 3718; Anaheim ANA (Heritage, 8/1995), lot 6550; Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 10/1995), lot 6059; Richmond Sale, Part II (David Lawrence, 11/2004), lot 1507.
- 7. Proof.** R.C. H. Brock; J.P. Morgan; American Numismatic Society.
- 8. Proof.** National Numismatic Collection at the Smithsonian Institution. NGC ID# 24ZS, PCGS# 6983

1858 Seated Dollar, PR64 Cameo
Famous Proof-Only Issue
'Badge of Accomplishment'



98784 1858 PR64 Cameo PCGS. The rims and design features exhibit light golden-gray iridescence, surrounded by glassy fields with deeper steel-gray and powder-blue patina. The two-toned effect generates eye-catching cameo contrast on each side. Wispy marks are scattered throughout, but the only useful pedigree marker is a dark toning spot between (ON)E D(OLLAR).

Population Data (9/15): This PR64 Cameo is among the three top-graded examples at PCGS (one in PR64+ Cameo). NGC reports three PR64 Cameo examples and three submissions finer, up to one PR67+ Cameo.

Heritage Commentary: The 1858 is a famous proof-only issue. Writing in his *Silver Dollar Encyclopedia* (1993), Bowers described the ownership of an example in any grade as a "badge of accomplishment." The issue's production total has been a source of debate for more than 125 years, with estimates ranging from 80 coins to over 700 pieces. The current consensus among researchers and numismatic scholars is that approximately 300 proof dollars were struck. Examples in this high grade with a Cameo designation are extremely rare.

Provenance: Numisma '95 (Stack's session), lot 1342. NGC ID# 252C, PCGS# 87001

1866 Seated Dollar, PR64
First-Year With Motto Coin



98785 1866 Motto PR64 NGC. CAC. This attractive near-Gem proof Seated dollar shows centers on each side with warm golden-amber tones surrounded by shades of violet, blue, and olive-green. Flashes of brilliance appear in the fields, deeply mirrored and contrasting moderately against razor-sharp devices. Marks are minimal, and the CAC endorsement is well-deserved.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 62 submitted in PR64 and 24 finer. PCGS records 61 Choice proofs and nine finer.

Heritage Commentary: The motto IN GOD WE TRUST first graced the two cent coins of 1864. Two years later it was adopted on quarters, half dollars, and dollars (plus the five, ten, and twenty dollar gold coins), making this a first-year issue of sorts. (Only two 1866 No Motto proofs are known.) A total of 725 proof With Mott Seated dollars complemented a production of 48,900 circulation strikes in 1866. Near-Gems are very scarce, and finer proofs are decidedly rare.

Provenance: Empire State Collection (Stack's, 1/1997), lot 596 NGC ID# 5GDV, PCGS# 7014

1870 Dollar, PR63
Lovely Multicolor Patina



98786 1870 PR63 NGC. This Select proof features gold-toned motifs with cobalt-blue and sea-green toning in the fields and over the peripheral design elements. The broad, squared-off rims show a partial wire rim on both sides. A handful of minor contact marks are scattered throughout, but they pose little distraction.

Population Data (9/15): NGC shows 75 finer submissions, while PCGS reports 74 examples in higher grades.

Heritage Commentary: Although the 1870 has the second-highest production total among all Seated dollar proofs (1,000 pieces struck), the issue is about as available as the 1867, which claims a considerably smaller mintage of 625 coins. It is possible that a number of unsold 1870 proof dollars were melted either at the close of the year or sometime after July 1873, when vast quantities of lightweight silver coins were converted into bullion and recoinced.

Provenance: *Numisma '95 (Stack's session, 11/1995), lot 1345.* NGC ID# 252S, PCGS# 7018

1870 Seated Dollar, PR65
Rich Toning, Considerable Contrast



98787 1870 PR65 PCGS. A thick layer of frost is readily apparent over the devices, and the mirrorlike fields show an almost limitless reflectivity. Blended gold, violet, and blue patina covers the obverse, while the reverse displays sharper color separation. Considerable contrast persists, despite the toning. This Gem proof is housed in a green label holder, raising an intriguing question as to whether PCGS would deem it Cameo today.

Population Data (9/15): This is one of 15 Gems at PCGS with six proofs graded finer. NGC reports 16 submitted in PR65 and 12 finer.

Heritage Commentary: With an official mintage of 1,000 proofs, the 1870 (and the 1861) has the second-highest production total among Seated dollar proofs, topped only by 1860. In practice, many survivors are heavily hairlined or impaired, making this Gem specimen all the more remarkable.

Provenance: *Stamford Coinfest Signature (Heritage, 10/2010), lot 3812.* NGC ID# 252S, PCGS# 7018

1871 Dollar, PR61
Collectible Type Representative



98788 1871 PR61 PCGS. Light golden-gray patina adorns the bright, moderately contrasted surfaces of this proof type coin. The fields display deep mirroring, and the devices are partially frosted but insufficiently so to warrant a Cameo designation. Light marks occur over each side, more noticeable on the obverse.

Heritage Commentary: The 1 million business strikes minted in 1871 represent the second-highest production total among all dates in the entire series, while the 960 proofs rank second among the most available With Motto Seated dollars. Consequently, both the proof and circulation strike Seated dollars of 1871 are popularly sought after for type purposes. This collectible representative would make a great addition to such a set.

Provenance: *Numisma '95 (Stack's session, 11/1995), lot 1348.* NGC ID# 252T, PCGS# 7019

1871 Seated Dollar, PR66
A Proof of the Utmost Rarity



98789 1871 PR66 NGC. Each side of this Premium Gem proof exhibits decided contrast between deeply reflective fields and frosty devices, the effect more pronounced on the obverse. Lavender, orange, and green hues combine throughout, imparting marvelous eye appeal. A phenomenal Seated dollar of high importance, and top-notch in every regard.

Population Data (9/15): NGC accounts for nine submissions in PR66 and two PR67 finer. PCGS shows one PR66+ and one PR67.

Heritage Commentary: With a mintage of 960 pieces, the 1871 is the second-most-available proof issue among With Motto Seated dollars after the 1870. Such a characterization may apply to the issue as a whole, but it fails to accurately convey the availability of examples in this remarkable grade. Premium Gem proofs such as this are of the utmost rarity.

Provenance: *Purchased from Kevin Lipton (7/2007).* NGC ID# 252T, PCGS# 7019

TRADE DOLLARS

1874-CC Trade Dollar, Boldly Struck MS64 Seldom Seen This Well-Preserved Rare in Any Mint State Grade



98790 1874-CC MS64 PCGS. This is a wonderful exception to the rule of mushy, irregular strikes for the 1874-CC Trade dollar issue. The stars, olive branch, and Liberty's head feature bold detail, as do the eagle's claws and feathers. A medley of steel-blue, violet, green, and russet toning covers each side with typically subdued luster shining through. Marks are well-concealed and minimally distracting.

Variety: Tall CC. Period after FINE. The normal variety for the issue.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS has seen 23 submissions in MS64 (one MS64+) and two finer — one each in MS65 and MS66. NGC reports 13 in MS64 and four finer.

Heritage Commentary: Nearly the entire mintage of 1.3 million 1874-CC Trade dollars was exported to East Asia, where the coins could still be found in circulation as recently as the 1940s. This is the most commonly encountered issue with chopmarks, yet it is one of the most elusive dates in high Mint State grades. Near-Gems are rare and Gems are extremely rare, as few coins were saved for numismatic purposes.

Provenance: Purchased from Aspen Park Rare Coins (7/2013). NGC ID# 2532, PCGS# 7035

1875 Trade Dollar, Brilliant MS64 Challenging Philadelphia Issue



98791 1875 Type Two Reverse MS64 PCGS. CAC. This splendid Choice Trade dollar displays a pale-gold tint over otherwise frosty, brilliant surfaces. Liberty's olive branch exhibits bold detail, while the head and stars are lightly impressed. Strike softness on the reverse is confined to the right (facing) claw. Shallow surface grazes in the field limit the grade but not the impeccable aesthetic appeal.

Variety: Type Two Reverse. The reverse is missing the olive berry below the right claw. This new hub type designed by William Barber was introduced in 1875.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows 24 near-Gems (two in MS64+) with four submissions finer, while NGC reports 18 Choice representatives and 11 finer. These figures are for all 1875 Trade dollar varieties.

Heritage Commentary: This issue has the lowest mintage among all Philadelphia business strikes in the series, a reported production of 218,200 coins (the extra 200 coins minted in April are likely proofs that were misrepresented as circulation strikes). Dave Bowers (1993) suggests that most pieces circulated domestically rather than overseas, based on the lack of chopmarked examples. The low-mintage 1875 is scarcer than its Carson City counterpart, yet trades for less at the MS64 level.

Provenance: Houston Signature (Heritage, 11/2009), lot 937; Fort Worth Signature (Heritage, 3/2010), lot 1248; purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (10/2011). PCGS# 40107 Base PCGS# 7037

1876-CC Trade Dollar, MS62
Doubled Die Reverse, FS-801
Extremely Rare in Mint State



98792 1876-CC Doubled Die Reverse, FS-801, MS62 PCGS. This crisply struck, beautifully patinated Carson City Trade dollar displays mild field reflectivity. Each side shows rich toning in orange-gold and aquamarine with occasional unobtrusive field abrasions.

Variety: Type One Obverse and Reverse. Tall CC. This *Guide Book* doubled die variety shows doubling most prominently on the eagle's branch and beak.

Population Data (9/15): Doubled Die Reverse examples include two submissions in MS62 (one MS62+) and three in MS63 at PCGS. NGC has seen three submissions in MS62 and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: The fifth edition of the *Cherrypickers' Guide* notes: "Considered by most to be the strongest reverse doubled die in the series, this variety is one of the highlights of the trade dollar varieties and is thought to be extremely rare in grades above AU." Variety enthusiasts should bid accordingly.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2012), lot 3816. NGC ID# 253A, PCGS# 145815 Base PCGS# 7042

1877 Trade Dollar, MS65
Major Rarity in Gem Condition



98793 1877 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Dusky violet and steel-gray patina covers both sides of this Gem Trade dollar. The obverse shows softness on the stars and only minor weakness on Liberty's head (highly unusual for this issue). Conversely, the reverse is much better-defined, showing strong wing detail and minor incompleteness on the right claw. A thin die crack connects most of the reverse legends.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 10 submissions in MS65 and two MS66 finer. NGC accounts for 11 in MS65 and one MS66 finer. This piece is among nine in this grade with the CAC green approval.

Heritage Commentary: Bowers' *Silver Dollars and Trade Dollars of the United States: A Complete Encyclopedia* remarks: "Despite its record high mintage for a Philadelphia coin of this denomination, the 1877 trade dollar is a major rarity in MS-65 grade." Examples are almost universally weakly struck on the obverse, though coins can occasionally be found with sharp reverse strikes, as is the case with this magnificent Gem.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (6/2012). NGC ID# 253C, PCGS# 7044

1877 Trade Dollar, MS65
Two Finer at PCGS



98794 1877 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Shimmering luster emanates beneath light golden-gray and violet patina on the obverse with fiery orange and ice-blue hues at the rims. The tab-toned reverse shows a crescent of dramatic rainbow colors around the border from the upper left to lower right. Liberty's head and the stars exhibit typical blending, though the olive branch and leaves are fully brought up. The eagle is sharply struck, save for the usual softness on the right (facing) talon. Overall, this is a splendid Gem Trade dollar.

Population Data (6/15): PCGS counts 10 Gem grading events and two Premium Gems finer. NGC shows 11 MS65 submissions, one MS66, and none finer. Nine in this grade have the CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1877 Trade dollar is a significant condition rarity at the Gem grade level. In 1993, Dave Bowers predicted that the rising popularity of third-party certification and the increasing awareness of this issue's rarity in MS65 would result in numerous resubmissions, and that collectors should watch for examples to become more common in that grade. This has not happened to the extent Bowers suggested, and the 1877 remains a major rarity at this grade level 22 years later.

Provenance: *Purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (1/2010).* NGC ID# 253C, PCGS# 7044

PROOF TRADE DOLLARS

1874 Trade Dollar, Reflective PR65
Rarely Encountered So Well-Preserved



98795 1874 PR65 PCGS. The fields of this Gem proof are well-mirrored beneath a dusky coating of olive-gray, golden-amber, and sea-green toning. Unsurprisingly for a proof, the devices exhibit pinpoint sharpness, aside for the high points of the eagle's right claw.

Population Data (9/15): This Gem proof is among nine other comparably graded coins at PCGS with three finer submissions. NGC reports 16 in PR65 and 10 finer.

Heritage Commentary: This second-year issue is one of the more challenging Trade dollars in proof format; only a tiny percentage of Gems survive from a mintage of 700 pieces. CoinFacts estimates the number of Gems extant to be 30 pieces. That approximation may be slightly low based on the certification figures at PCGS and NGC, but it is unlikely that the actual number exceeds 40 or 45 PR65 specimens after accounting for resubmissions and crossovers.

Provenance: *Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 6/2006), lot 2116.* NGC ID# 27YK, PCGS# 7054

1874 Trade Dollar, PR65 Cameo
Colorful Toning, Bold Contrast



98796 1874 PR65 Cameo PCGS. CAC. This sensational Gem Cameo proof Trade dollar displays excellent contrast between the fields and devices. Full mint frost covers the motifs on both sides, surrounded by deeply mirrored fields. The obverse features lovely rainbow iridescence near the borders, while the reverse is completely toned in steel-blue, sea-green, and rose hues.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS data show four submissions in PR65 Cameo (one PR65+ Cameo) and one PR66 Cameo finer. NGC reports 10 PR65 Cameo submissions, and one each in PR66 Cameo and PR67 Cameo finer. This piece is among two in PR65 Cameo with the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: A total of 700 Trade dollar proofs was struck in 1874. Coins were distributed to numismatists primarily in proof sets. However, 175 specimens remained on hand at the Mint in January 1875 and were sold at face value. Dave Bowers (1993) explains that “the rate of retaining [1874 proof dollars] was not high, and today hundreds of pieces have been lost. These pieces were simply spent for face value, as was also the case for many 1873 Proofs — accounting for the impaired Proofs occasionally seen today.” This amazing Cameo-designated Gem proof is as pristine as the day it was struck, save for the added layer of colorful toning.

Provenance: Long Beach Signature (*Heritage*, 2/2008), lot 893. NGC ID# 27YK, PCGS# 87054

1878 Trade Dollar, PR64
Popular Proof-Only Issue



98797 1878 PR64 NGC. Lavender-orange centers transition to deeper shades of purple-gray at the margins. The strike is razor-sharp, as expected, and small contact marks are unobtrusive. A lovely near-Gem proof with watery fields and good eye appeal.

Population Data (9/15): NGC has seen 59 finer submissions, while PCGS shows 20 proofs in higher grades.

Heritage Commentary: The Philadelphia Mint restricted Trade dollar production to a meager 900 proofs in 1878. Treasury Secretary Sherman mandated that production of Trade dollars cease on February 22, 1878, before the Mint had struck any coins for circulation. A total of 300 proofs were manufactured in January followed by 200 coins each in February, March, and May.

Provenance: James A. Stack, Sr. and Norman Oppenheim Collections (*Stack's*, 3/1995), lot 235. NGC ID# 27YP, PCGS# 7058

1878 Trade Dollar, PR65
Seldom Seen So Fine



98798 1878 PR65 PCGS. This richly toned Gem proof features deep olive, violet, and steel-blue tones over well-preserved surfaces. Needle-sharp devices appear to float over the glassy, mirrorlike fields. None of the small, wispy marks that preclude a higher grade are worthy of individual mention.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 11 submitted in PR65 and nine finer. NGC accounts for 41 and 18 in comparable grade levels.

Heritage Commentary: The only circulation-strike dollars minted at Philadelphia in 1878 were of the new Morgan design. Trade dollars were struck to the meager extent of 900 proofs, as no business strikes were manufactured prior to Treasury Secretary John Sherman's call to end Trade dollar production. Examples from this covered proof-only issue are in perennially high demand, especially in PR65 or better.

Provenance: *Stack's* (10/1996), lot 414. NGC ID# 27YP, PCGS# 7058

1883 Trade Dollar, Appealing PR64
Final Regular Date in the Set



98799 1883 PR64 PCGS. CAC. Intense blue, rose, violet, and golden-orange patina hides most of the small, grade-limiting marks and provides this Choice proof with excellent, CAC-affirmed eye appeal. The strike definition is predictably bold save for a touch of softness noted over Liberty's head, characteristic of nearly all 1883 Trade dollar proofs.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 71 submissions in higher grades.

Heritage Commentary: This proof-only date (979 specimens struck) represents the final regular issue in the Trade dollar series. The famous 1884 and 1885 rarities are recognized as having been produced clandestinely. Even if they were manufactured on the record, the 1883 would still be last collectible date in the set for all but the most well-heeled specialists.

Provenance: *W.R. Walling Collection* (*Stack's*, 3/1996), lot 533. NGC ID# 5DP8, PCGS# 7063

MORGAN DOLLAR

1878 8 Tailfeathers Dollar, MS65
Elusive in Finer Grades



98800 1878 8TF Diagonal in 8, VAM-17, MS65 PCGS. Lustrous, all-brilliant surfaces show no traces of color. The design elements are well-struck, save for insignificant softness on the hair over Liberty's ear. A few minor grazes on Liberty's cheek and in the left obverse field are undistracting.

Variety: VAM-17. A die chip in the bottom loop of the first 8 in the date is the primary attribution marker for this available 8 Tailfeathers variety. The most common 8 Tailfeathers variety, the VAM-17 is rated R.4 by VAMWorld.com.

Population Data (9/15): For all 8 Tailfeathers varieties, PCGS reports 53 submissions in Premium Gem or finer grades. NGC reports 27 finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1878 8 Tailfeathers Morgan dollar claims a mintage of 749,500 coins, and examples are collectible through the Gem grade level. Premium Gems or finer are very scarce to rare.

Provenance: *New York Signature* (Heritage, 6/2005), lot 5919. NGC ID# 253H, PCGS# 133818 Base PCGS# 7072

PROOF MORGAN DOLLARS

1901 Morgan Dollar, PR66
In-Demand Business Strike Alternative
Ex: Childs Collection



98801 1901 PR66 PCGS. Ex: Childs Collection. The obverse features noticeable contrast between the frosted portrait of Liberty and the glassy fields, though the effect is partially subdued by the dappled reddish-violet and ice-blue patina. A uniform layer of lilac-gray toning shrouds the minimally contrasted reverse, and marks are barely perceptible on either side.

Population Data (9/15): There are 16 Premium Gem proofs (one in PR66+) and five submissions finer at PCGS. NGC reports 32 PR66 submissions (three in PR66+), 14 in PR67, and three in PR68.

Heritage Commentary: The extreme rarity of high-grade Uncirculated 1901 Morgan dollars, most of which either entered circulation or were melted under the terms of the Pittman Act of 1918, places considerable demand on the 813 proof dollars struck. Proofs are readily available through PR64, but the issue becomes rare in PR65 or better.

Provenance: *Purchased directly from the Philadelphia Mint by Walter H. and C.F. Childs; Childs Family Collection* (Bowers and Merena, 8/1999), lot 517. NGC ID# 27ZZ, PCGS# 7336

1902 Morgan Dollar, PR66
Ex: Childs Collection



98802 1902 PR66 PCGS. Ex: Childs Collection. Glints of lime-green and electric-blue accent intermingled shades of lavender, rose, and apricot-orange toning on each side of this Premium Gem proof. As expected for a specimen in this high grade, the surfaces are essentially devoid of all but the most trivial contact marks.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 22 submissions in PR66 (two in PR66+) with seven finer. NGC shows 39 in PR66 (one in PR66 ★) and 18 finer.

Heritage Commentary: A mintage of 777 Morgan dollar proofs was accomplished in 1902. The majority of examples have minimal field-motif contrast, as the Mint started using a brilliant finish in that year and continued the technique through 1904, when proof Morgan dollar production ceased (the brilliant finish was employed through 1907 for other denominations).

The Childs pedigree is well-known to collectors through the family's former ownership of an extraordinary 1804 Original silver dollar, the "Watters-Childs" specimen, PR68 PCGS, now in the Brent Pogue Collection.

Provenance: Purchased directly from the Philadelphia Mint by Walter H. and C.F. Childs; Childs Family Collection (Bowers and Merena, 8/1999), lot 518. NGC ID# 2822, PCGS# 7337

GOLD DOLLAR

1866 Gold Dollar, Magnificent MS67
Conditionally Rare



98803 1866 MS67 PCGS. Intense luster emanates from both sides of this magnificent Superb Gem, displaying yellow- and honey-gold color imbued with whispers of lime-green. The design elements are sharply struck, including all letters in LIBERTY, Liberty's feathers and plumes, and the veins in the leaves of the reverse wreath. Strong clash marks appear, especially on the reverse, where the Indian's outline is visible, as is LIBERTY in raised letters below the date.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports seven pieces in MS67 (two in MS67+) and three in MS68 finer. NGC shows four Superb Gems (including one MS67 ★ Prooflike) and two finer in MS68.

Heritage Commentary: The 1866 gold dollar saw a mintage of 7,100 circulation strikes. This issue is challenging in all Mint State grades and is a condition rarity in Gem and finer levels of preservation. A Superb Gem such as this piece represents a remarkable bidding opportunity.

Provenance: Purchased from Jason Carter (9/2013). NGC ID# 25D2, PCGS# 7565

INDIAN QUARTER EAGLES

1908 Quarter Eagle, Lustrous MS66
Excellent High-Grade Type Coin



98804 1908 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Ex: Big Sky Collection. A medley of orange-gold, mint-green, and apricot patination adorns the intensely lustrous surfaces of this Premium Gem. The obverse is sharply struck, including the feather detail and star centers. The reverse is also well-defined except for the eagle's wing, which reveals the usual weakness seen on virtually all 1908 quarter eagles. This is not the result of a weak strike but rather stems from lack of detail in the die.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports two submissions finer than MS66, while NGC shows three finer. This piece is among five in MS66 with the green CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1908 is a popular issue due to its status as the first Indian Head quarter eagle. As with many first-year coins it was heavily saved, and consequently is common in high grades. Most Mint State examples, however, hover around the MS61-MS62 grade level. This Premium Gem stands out as an excellent high-grade type coin.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (4/2012). NGC ID# 288Y, PCGS# 7939

1909 Quarter Eagle, Richly Toned MS66
Unknown in Higher Grades



98805 1909 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Ex: Big Sky Collection. Rich orange-gold patina imbued with whispers of yellowish-green and reddish-gold resides on the lustrous surfaces of this magnificent Premium Gem. The design features are sharply impressed, including the headdress feathers and all of the eagle's plumage. Neither side reveals mentionable contact marks or Mint-made spots, blemishes that occur on most survivors of this issue. The outstanding eye appeal is affirmed by the CAC endorsement.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS and NGC report 18 and 26 submissions in MS66, respectively, with none finer at either service. This piece is among five in this grade with the CAC approval.

Heritage Commentary: The 1909 quarter eagle can be located through near-Gem with relatively little difficulty. This date becomes challenging in Gem and rare in Premium Gem. As the population reports indicate, higher-grade coins are unknown.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (4/2012). NGC ID# 288Z, PCGS# 7940

1910 Quarter Eagle, Gorgeous MS65
Difficult at This Level of Preservation



98806 1910 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Ex: Big Sky Collection. Deep orange-gold, apricot, and yellow-gold patination envelops the lustrous surfaces of this stunning Gem, and sharply struck design elements further enhance its gorgeous eye appeal. Close examination reveals no significant marks. Moreover, Mint-made spotting and planchet defects, sometimes seen on this date, are absent on the present coin. In this regard, David Akers wrote of the 1910: "Examples that are smooth enough to grade at least MS65 are few and far between on the market."

Population Data (9/15): PCGS and NGC report 11 and 15 submissions in finer grades, respectively.

Heritage Commentary: The 1910 is obtainable with minimum difficulty through near-Gem. The population declines significantly at the Gem level, however, and higher-grade pieces are elusive.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (4/2012). NGC ID# 2892, PCGS# 7941

1911 Quarter Eagle, Sharp MS65
Good Eye Appeal



98807 1911 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Yellow-gold color embraces the lustrous surfaces of this Gem quarter eagle. The design elements are sharply struck, including most of the headdress feathers and all of the eagle's plumage. A few scattered minute marks are within the parameters of the designated grade. The good eye appeal is appropriately recognized by CAC. This is significant, because the 1911 is one of the most difficult quarter eagles to obtain with pleasing eye appeal.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports a solitary MS66 finer for the issue. NGC shows seven submissions finer than MS65.

Heritage Commentary: The 1911 has the second highest mintage in the Indian Head quarter eagle series (704,000 pieces). Examples can be located rather easily through near-Gem, but the certified population declines precipitously at the Gem level. Higher-grade examples are extremely rare.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (4/2012). NGC ID# 7KR6, PCGS# 7942

1911-D Quarter Eagle, MS64+
Sharply Defined Series Key
With CAC Approval



98808 1911-D Strong D MS64+ PCGS. CAC. Ex: Big Sky Collection. The lustrous surfaces of this high-end near-Gem key-date representative display light orange-gold color imbued with soft greenish tints. The design elements are sharply defined, including the D mintmark, designated Strong D on the PCGS label. A few trivial marks, mostly in the upper-right reverse field, do not detract. The above-average eye appeal is aptly recognized by CAC.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 16 1911-D quarter eagles in MS64+ and 24 submissions finer. NGC shows two pieces in MS64+ and 79 finer. CAC, ignoring the Plus designation, has given the green approval to 69 in MS64 and only nine finer — eight MS65 and one MS66.

Heritage Commentary: The 1911-D has the lowest mintage (55,680 pieces) in the Indian Head quarter eagle series and is the most desirable. The present MS64+ offering is the highest grade that is likely to be encountered by most collectors.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (4/2012). NGC ID# 7KR7, PCGS# 7943

1912 Quarter Eagle, Well-Preserved MS65
Very Rare in Higher Grades



98809 1912 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Ex: Big Sky Collection. Deep orange-gold patination is laced with whispers of apricot. The design elements are sharply impressed, including the headdress feathers and the eagle's plumage. Lustrous surfaces reveal a few minute, scattered marks, none deserving individual attention.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 74 submissions in MS65 (one MS65) and five finer, while NGC shows 67 in MS65 and two finer. The present example is among seven Gem 1912 quarter eagles endorsed by CAC.

Heritage Commentary: The 1912 quarter eagle can be obtained through near-Gem with little difficulty. The certified population declines significantly at the MS65 level, the highest grade that most collectors are likely to encounter. Indian Head quarter specialists will find this Gem offering to be an excellent choice for a high-grade collection.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (4/2012). NGC ID# 7KR8, PCGS# 7944

1913 Quarter Eagle, Pleasing MS65
Extremely Rare Any Finer



98810 1913 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Ex: Big Sky Collection. The lustrous yellow-gold surfaces of this pleasing Gem are laced with hints of mint-green and exhibit sharply struck design elements throughout. Both sides have been well-cared for, and neither possesses the Mint-made spots that occasionally occur on this issue.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS and NGC report only seven and six submissions, respectively, finer than this Gem.

Heritage Commentary: The 1913 has the highest mintage in the Indian Head quarter eagle series, struck to the extent of 722,000 pieces, but most survive in the lower reaches of Mint State, usually MS60 to MS63. Gems are elusive and the highest grade likely to be found. Premium Gems are extremely rare.

Provenance: *Purchased from Legend Numismatics (4/2012).* NGC ID# 7KR9, PCGS# 7945

1914 Quarter Eagle, Sharp MS64
Exceptionally Clean Surfaces



98811 1914 MS64 PCGS. CAC. Ex: Big Sky Collection. The lustrous surfaces of this near-Gem display copper-gold patination imbued with traces of mint-green on the reverse. Sharply struck design features further enhance the lovely eye appeal. Stray, unobtrusive marks are fewer and less severe than might be expected for the grade. The exceptionally clean surfaces are a significant attribute. Fuljenz writes: "The 1914 is among the hardest Indian Head Quarter Eagles to find with clean surfaces."

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 62 submissions in finer grades, and NGC 48 finer.

Heritage Commentary: Quarter eagle production at the Philadelphia Mint fell off markedly in 1914 with only 240,000 circulation pieces struck, the lowest Philadelphia mintage in the series.

Provenance: *Purchased from Legend Numismatics (4/2012).* NGC ID# 7KRA, PCGS# 7946

1914-D Quarter Eagle, Exceptional MS65
Among Four Top-Grade Examples at CAC



98812 1914-D MS65 PCGS. CAC. Ex: Big Sky Collection. The 1914-D quarter eagle is difficult to locate with clean surfaces, as it tends to be heavily abraded and show copper spots. The issue is usually found weakly struck, as well. Most Mint State examples tend to cluster in the range from MS60 to MS63, and MS64 pieces are usually the finest seen. Gems are rare, and Premium Gems are virtually unknown.

The present Gem is a refreshing exception. The few minute marks on lustrous orange-gold surfaces are unobtrusive, and neither side reveals mentionable spotting. The design features are well-struck including the eagle's wing feathers, which are usually weak. The high eye appeal is appropriately recognized by CAC.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 48 grading events in MS65 and none finer. NGC shows 43 pieces in Gem and one MS67 finer. This Gem is among the four finest pieces given the CAC sticker.

Heritage Commentary: Both David Akers and Michael Fuljenz call the 1914-D an important rarity in Gem or finer grades, one of the premier conditional keys in the entire series. Indian Head quarter eagle specialists will not want to miss out on this exceptional Gem.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (4/2012). NGC ID# 2899, PCGS# 7947

1915 Quarter Eagle, Bold MS66
An Important Condition Rarity
One of Two Finest Endorsed by CAC



98813 1915 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Ex: Big Sky Collection. The honey-gold surfaces of this Premium Gem display whispers of yellow-gold. The design elements are sharply struck, including bold definition on the eagle's wing and breast. A few minuscule marks are within the parameters of the grade and mostly confined to the exposed reverse fields.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS has seen four submissions in MS66 and none finer. NGC reports eight Premium Gems and none finer. The present coin is one of the two finest 1915 quarter eagles endorsed by CAC.

Heritage Commentary: The 1915 quarter eagle can be located with minimal difficulty through near-Gem. The certified population declines precipitously in MS65, examples of which are seldom available. Above MS65, the issue is an important condition rarity. This Premium Gem should elicit spirited bidding among Indian Head quarter eagle specialists.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (4/2012). NGC ID# 7KRC, PCGS# 7948

1925-D Two and a Half, Well-Struck MS65+
Popular Type Coin



98814 1925-D MS65+ PCGS. CAC. Ex: Big Sky Collection. A melange of orange-, green-, and yellow-gold patination cascades over the lustrous surfaces of this high-end Gem, a tad deeper on the reverse. While the rims are poorly defined because of die buckling, the remaining design features are sharply impressed, including all of the peripheral elements on both sides, such as the star centers, LIBERTY, the legend, and the denomination. Even the D mintmark is bold. This above-average strike is significant: Many 1925-D examples are weak throughout.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 18 submissions in MS65+ and 35 finer. NGC shows 49 submissions finer.

Heritage Commentary: In 1925, quarter eagle production was resumed after a nine-year hiatus and was limited to the Denver Mint. It is significant as the only mintmarked issue of the series produced in the 1920s, and accordingly popular with type collectors.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (4/2012). NGC ID# 7KRD, PCGS# 7949

1926 Quarter Eagle, Vibrant MS65
Remarkably Clean Surfaces
Elusive Any Finer



98815 1926 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Ex: Big Sky Collection. The yellow-gold surfaces of this gorgeous Gem are imbued with whispers of soft green and apricot. The design elements are sharply struck throughout, a consistent attribute of this issue. Both sides are awash with vibrant luster, and neither reveals mentionable contact marks. This design type with raised, exposed fields usually shows abrasions or at least ticks in those areas, especially on the reverse, even on high-grade specimens. The present coin is pleasing exception, showing remarkably clean surfaces.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS shows 43 submissions in finer grades, and NGC reports 21 above MS65. The CAC green approval sticker separates this piece from the vast majority of those in the Gem grade.

Heritage Commentary: The 1926 is the first quarter eagle struck at the Philadelphia Mint since 1915. Gems can be located with little difficulty, but higher-grade examples are elusive. Even though the 1926 is a common date, this Gem offers exceptional technical quality and aesthetic appeal that may be difficult to duplicate.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (4/2012). NGC ID# 7KRE, PCGS# 7950

1927 Quarter Eagle, Top-Graded MS66
One of Two Finest Endorsed by CAC



98816 1927 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Ex: Big Sky Collection. Pleasing luster emanates from both sides of this Premium Gem, displaying blushes of orange-gold, apricot, mint-green, yellow-gold, and rose. While the typical weakness is noticeable on the rims due to die buckling, the remaining design elements are sharply defined, including bold detail on the eagle's wing, breast, and leg feathers. A few grade-consistent marks are visible. A minuscule mark to the left of the Indian's chin and one left of each of the eagle's legs will serve as pedigree identifiers.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 21 submissions in MS66 and none finer, while NGC shows 10 Premium Gems and none finer. This piece is among two in this top grade with the CAC green approval label.

Heritage Commentary: The 1927 quarter eagle can be located in Gem condition but Premium Gems such as the present piece are quite rare. This is a stunning example for a high-grade Indian Head quarter eagle collection.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (4/2012). NGC ID# BUTL, PCGS# 7951

1928 Quarter Eagle, Vibrant MS65
Late-Series P-Mint, Seldom Seen Finer



98817 1928 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Ex: Big Sky Collection. Vibrant luster radiates from the greenish-gold surfaces that are imbued with blushes of orange-gold, yellow-gold, and rose. The design elements are well-struck and display strong definition on the headdress feathers, star centers, and eagle's plumage. Scattered light marks are consistent with the grade designation. A light copper spot is visible at the top of the headdress.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 11 submissions finer than MS65, while NGC shows 18 in higher grades.

Heritage Commentary: The 1928 is the penultimate issue in the Indian Head quarter eagle series. It can be readily located in most grades, particularly through near-Gem grade. Gems will require considerably more searching, and finer examples are quite rare.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (4/2012). NGC ID# 289E, PCGS# 7952

1929 Quarter Eagle, MS65+
Remarkably Clean Surfaces
Final Year of the Series



98818 1929 MS65+ PCGS. CAC. Ex: Big Sky Collection. A medley of yellow-gold, mint-green, and copper-gold patina runs over the lustrous surfaces of this high-end Gem. The design elements exhibit strong definition, with impressive detail on the headdress feathers, star centers, and eagle's breast, wing, and leg feathers. There are fewer marks than expected for the Gem designation, which likely accounts for the MS65+ grade. A light, undistracting copper spot is visible on the headdress above the Indian's forehead.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports only this solitary MS65 and four MS66 submissions finer. NGC shows five in MS65+ (one MS65+ ★) and four finer, all MS66. CAC has endorsed 10 examples of the date in Gem grade and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: The 1929 is the final year of the Indian Head quarter eagle series. Gems can be found from time to time, but a high-end MS65+ such as this piece with CAC endorsement is a rare find, and Premium Gems are all but unobtainable.

Provenance: Purchased from Legend Numismatics (4/2012). NGC ID# 289F, PCGS# 7953

COMMEMORATIVE SILVER

1924 Huguenot Half Dollar, Lustrous MS67



98819 1924 Huguenot MS67 PCGS. This lovely Superb Gem offers strong luster beneath silver-gray and reddish-gold toning, the latter appearing primarily at the margins. The design elements are well-struck and both sides are nicely preserved. Housed in a green-label holder.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS reports 65 coins in MS67 (10 in MS67+) and two finer. NGC shows 58 Superb Gems and two finer.

Heritage Commentary: The subject of commemoration of the Huguenot half dollar was the 300th anniversary of the settling of New Netherland in 1624 by Walloons, French and Belgian Huguenots, under the Dutch West India Company. This issue is available through MS65 without too much trouble and is extremely rare above MS67.

Provenance: FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2008), lot 2342. NGC ID# BYGT, PCGS# 9314

1936 Norfolk Half Dollar, MS68
Marvelously Patinated



98820 1936 Norfolk MS68 PCGS. CAC. The lustrous surfaces of this marvelous Superb Gem Norfolk commemorative display whispers of soft powder-blue patina, fringed on the obverse margin with orange-gold and greenish hues. The design elements are sharply impressed and the surfaces on both sides have been immaculately preserved, as expected for the designated grade. Housed in a green-label holder with the CAC approval.

Population Data (9/15): PCGS and NGC each report a single example at the MS69 grade level.

Heritage Commentary: This issue commemorates the 300th anniversary of the land grant for Norfolk, Virginia, and the 200th anniversary of its establishment as a borough. Perusal of the population reports indicates that the Norfolk commemorative half dollar is quite plentiful; more than 7,700 grading events appear between the two services, the majority of specimens falling into the MS65 to MS67 range. This lovely toned MS68 example will form the centerpiece for a top-notch commemorative half dollar collection. NGC ID# BYH5, PCGS# 9337

1938-S Oregon Trail Half, Outstanding MS68
Among the Finest Known



98821 1938-S Oregon MS68 NGC. CAC. Light sky-blue toning dominates the highly lustrous surfaces of this Oregon Trail commemorative half dollar, accented with whispers of lavender, orange-gold, and violet. Sharply defined design elements and impeccably preserved surfaces contribute to the outstanding eye appeal, appropriately recognized by the CAC endorsement.

Population Data (9/15): NGC reports 21 submissions in MS68 (four MS68 ★) and none finer. PCGS shows 13 in MS68 (one MS68+) and none finer.

Heritage Commentary: This issue commemorates the Oregon Trail and the pioneers who traversed it during the early 19th century. A total of 14 issues were struck between 1926 and 1939 at three mints. The 1926-S saw the largest distribution of more than 83,000 pieces and the 1939-P, 1939-D and 1939-S each had a distribution slightly exceeding 3,000 coins. The 1938-S had a distribution slightly over 6,000 pieces. NGC ID# BYHK, PCGS# 9350

**The Gardner Collection Books
Enhanced Book Set
All Proceeds to Charity**



98822 Gene Gardner Collection Enhanced Book Set. Gene Gardner, the collector, formed the finest collection of Liberty Seated coinage, among others. He also formed a spectacular and virtually complete collection of Barber coins, and his interests extended to earlier coinage as well.

Gene Gardner, the numismatist, studied his coins and published an impressive photographic record of his small denomination Mint State Liberty Seated coins, half dimes through half dollars. The hardbound books, each with an illustrated dust jacket, were published for his own use, as well as the use of his family and closest friends. Photography and layout was accomplished by Steve and Josh Witmer of Tape to Disc Studios in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The print run for each was extremely limited. Since the first Gardner sale in June 2014, five additional books have been published. The Enhanced Book Set includes 12 individual volumes.

Heritage Auctions proudly offers a complete set of these hardbound books. All proceeds, including the buyer's premium, will be donated to the American Numismatic Association's Young Numismatist Scholarship Fund. The donation confirms the Gardner Family's interest in continuing numismatic education.

The individual books are:

1. *The Gardner Collection: Liberty Seated Half Dimes, 1837-1873.* Published in 2012, with slipcase.
2. *The Gardner Collection: Liberty Seated Half Dime Proofs, 1837-1873.* Published in 2014.
3. *The Gardner Collection: Liberty Seated Dimes, Volume I, 1837-1860.* Published in 2012.
4. *The Gardner Collection: Liberty Seated Dimes, Volume II, 1860-1891.* Published in 2013, with slipcase for books 3 and 4.
5. *The Gardner Collection: Liberty Seated Dime Proofs 1837-1891.* Published in 2014.
6. *The Gardner Collection: Liberty Seated Quarters, Volume I, 1838-1865. Third edition.* Published in 2014.
7. *The Gardner Collection: Liberty Seated Quarters, Volume II, 1866-1891. Third edition.* Published in 2014.
8. *The Gardner Collection: Liberty Seated Quarter Proofs, 1838-1891.* Published in 2014.
9. *The Gardner Collection: Barber Quarters, 1892-1916.* Published in 2011, with slipcase.
10. *The Gardner Collection: Liberty Seated Half Dollars, Volume I, 1839-1866. Second edition.* Published in 2014.
11. *The Gardner Collection: Liberty Seated Half Dollars, Volume II, 1866-1891. Second edition.* Published in 2014.
12. *The Gardner Collection: Liberty Seated Half Dollar Proofs, 1839-1891.* Published in 2014. (Total: 12 books)

End of Session One

Session Two

The Eugene H. Gardner Collection, Part IV

SPECIAL INTERNET BIDDING FEATURE

Online proxy bidding ends at HA.com two hours prior to the opening of the live auction. After proxy bidding closes, live bidding will take place through Heritage Live!®, that lets you bid live during the actual auction. (Important note: Due to software and Internet latency, bids placed through Live Internet Bidding may not register in time and those bids will not be recognized, so we advise placing your proxy bids in advance.)

LARGE CENTS



99001 1803 Small Date, Large Fraction, S-257, B-16, R.2, MS62 Brown NGC. Our EAC Grade AU55. This sharply detailed and nicely centered cent exhibits splendid olive-brown surfaces with splashes of tan faded from original mint red. Scattered handling marks on each side are consistent with the grade. NGC has certified 17 examples in MS62 Brown and 31 finer examples within that color designation (8/15). This early die state cent shows light clash marks inside the wreath. NGC ID# 224G, PCGS# 36395 Base PCGS# 1485



99002 1816 N-2, R.1 — Improperly Cleaned — NGC Details. Unc. Our EAC Grade AU50. The large cent was the only denomination minted in 1816. Despite the NGC disclaimer, this is an attractive cent with substantial orange color and pleasing blue-brown patina. The 1816 Newcomb-2 cent is popular with type collectors as it is available in high grade due to the Randall Hoard.

99003 No lot.



99004 1833 N-5, R.1, MS64 Brown NGC. CAC. Our EAC Grade MS60. The 8 in the date is recut with projections upward from the top left and right curves. A die crack joins the date and stars 1 through 10. This lovely golden-brown cent has hints of iridescent toning with a splash of mint red on the rotated reverse. The stars at the left obverse are weak as usual.
Ex: Colonial Trading Company; Superior (9/1997), lot 113. PCGS# 37030 Base PCGS# 1696



99005 1836 N-3, R.1, MS64 Brown NGC. CAC. Our EAC Grade MS60. This variety is typically identified by the rim break over star 6 that appears on nearly all known examples. A lovely chestnut-brown example, this piece exhibits frosty mint luster with bold design motifs. The Noyes Census records nearly 40 Mint State examples of the die marriage.
Ex: Stack's (3/1997), lot 227. PCGS# 37117 Base PCGS# 1726



99006 1847 N-39, R.3, MS65 Brown NGC. CAC. Our EAC Grade MS60. Grellman Die State b, with the reverse cracks clearly visible through the tops of many legend letters, before the appearance of flow lines in the latest die state. This lovely Gem cent exhibits satiny chestnut-brown surfaces with delicate blue toning around the devices. A splendid example.
Ex: Stack's (5/1995), lot 15. PCGS# 37361 Base PCGS# 1877



99007 1855 Upright 55, N-4, R.1, MS65 Red and Brown NGC. CAC. Our EAC Grade MS63. Grellman Die State a. A large hoard of Mint State examples of the early die state has been dispersed, ensuring a sufficient supply to meet demand. This lovely cent is one of those hoard coins, featuring substantial orange mint luster blended with light chocolate overtones.
Purchased from Aspen Park Rare Coins (2/2012). NGC ID# 226M, PCGS# 46953

FLYING EAGLE CENT



99008 1857 — Improperly Cleaned — NGC Details. Unc. Despite the NGC caveat this is an attractive coin with plenty of eye appeal, showing a good amount of detail on surfaces that are medium brown on the obverse and a tad deeper on the reverse. A straight, short scrape shows below C in CENT on the reverse, but otherwise there are no mentionable contact marks.

INDIAN CENTS



99009 1861 MS63 NGC. CAC. This is a flashy coin for the fairly modest Mint State grade, showing lots of mint orange with only a tad of deeper lilac patina in the Indian's headdress. All four diamonds show on the ribbon, and the rear feather tips (but not the front) are plain. The 1861 was the lowest-mintage issue, at 10 million coins, of the five Copper-Nickel, Oak Wreath issues of 1860 to 1864. NGC ID# 227G, PCGS# 2061



99010 1862 MS63 NGC. CAC. The medium lilac-tan surfaces show some muted luster and no overt impairments, although magnification reveals some minor flecks on each side that are nonetheless unbothersome. The strike is somewhat mushy on the lower and left wreath areas. A nice type example for a budget-minded collector. NGC ID# 227H, PCGS# 2064



99011 1862 MS65 NGC. Medium tan-orange surfaces host minimal abrasions other than one faint tick on the Indian's cheek, and the eye appeal is generally good. No flecks of any import appear. As the highest-mintage date among the five Copper-Nickel, Oak Wreath cent issues, the 1862 is often chosen for type representation. NGC ID# 227H, PCGS# 2064

99012 No lot.



99013 1864 L on Ribbon MS62 Red and Brown NGC. Snow-6. Considerable mint luster resides on the surfaces of this cent, showing colors ranging from the prevailing medium nut-brown to generous daubs of woodgrain effect on each side. Clear repunching and an adjacent die crack appear at the left base of 1 in the date, and within the bottom loops of the 8 and 6. NGC ID# 227M, PCGS# 2080



99014 1868 MS64 Brown NGC. CAC. Chocolate-brown surfaces show little remaining luster, although there is no obvious flecking on either side. The strike produces four diamonds present, if not bold, and much of the feather detail is pleasantly strong. A better-date cent with the added CAC approval. Census: 68 in 64 Brown, 20 finer (8/15). CAC has approved seven in this grade and five finer. NGC ID# 227S, PCGS# 2091



99015 1874 MS64 Brown NGC. Razor-sharp strike detail appears right up to the feather tips of this mahogany-brown near-Gem cent. Some waves of lighter grayish patina show in the lower obverse field. The reverse offers a similarly meticulous strike. The eye appeal is great for a Brown coin, save for somewhat muted luster. Census: 69 in 64 Brown, 26 finer (8/15). NGC ID# 227Z, PCGS# 2118



99016 1884 MS63 Red and Brown NGC. CAC. Ample mint orange color appears at the peripheries on each side, surrounding centers featuring burgundy, lilac, and brown patina. Minor roughness shows on the Indian's cheek. This coin may have been purchased as a proof, an understandable mistake given the sharpness of the strike. Attractive and carbon-free. NGC ID# 228B, PCGS# 2149



99017 1903 MS64 Red and Brown NGC. CAC. Generous accents of mint orange-red around the peripheries of this near-Gem surround interiors of lilac-brown on this well-preserved and powerfully struck coin. All four diamonds on the ribbon are bold and most of the detail on the feather tips, save for the two foremost ones. NGC ID# 228Y, PCGS# 2215



99018 1904 MS63 Red and Brown NGC. CAC. The luminous surfaces are predominantly orange-red in the fields and portions of the devices, the balance subsumed by medium brown patina. There are no mentionable flecks save for a tiny one below N in ONE, and the strike is pleasingly bold throughout both sides. The wreath is particularly sharp. NGC ID# 228Z, PCGS# 2218



99019 1908-S MS63 Red and Brown NGC. CAC. This coin adopts a two-palette approach, portions of each side showing streaky woodgrain toning contrasted against areas of tan-brown and orange-red. The appearance will not suit everyone's taste but no visible carbon appears, and only trivial ticks account for the grade. NGC ID# 2296, PCGS# 2233

99020 No lot.



99021 1909 MS65 Red and Brown NGC. The obverse retains plenty of mint orange-red color in the fields, although the devices are largely lilac-brown. The reverse shows prevailing brown with orange confined to the left side, amid a powerful strike throughout the wreath. The obverse is fairly sharp as well. A few trivial ticks show under a loupe on the reverse. Among Red and Brown coins, NGC reports 25 submissions in finer grades (8/15). NGC ID# 2297, PCGS# 2236



99022 1909-S AU55 Brown NGC. CAC. Minor whiffs of wear appear on the high points of the hair surrounding the Indian's brow and the feather tips, particularly the foremost, while brown, mauve, and orange compete for territory. A small tick on the cheek is undistracting. A nice example for the budget-minded of the last S-mint Indian cent issue. NGC ID# 2298, PCGS# 2238

PROOF INDIAN CENTS



99023 1862 PR64 NGC. Medium almond-brown surfaces boast lively eye appeal, despite a couple of minor contact marks that define the grade. Those marks are in the left obverse field, away from the focal points, and in any case not overlarge. A couple of small flecks appear on the reverse.
Ex: McGreevy-Lawrence Sale (Stack's, 5/1997), lot 399. NGC ID# 229C, PCGS# 2259



99024 1865 PR63 Red and Brown NGC. CAC. A mix of orange and lilac patina covers the obverse, which shows a small planchet defect on the middle rib of the sixth feather. The reverse is considerably nicer than the obverse, also exhibiting a few faint field hairlines that partially account for the grade. Still sharply struck and elusive. Census: 13 in 63 Red and Brown, 74 finer (8/15).
Ex: Walling Sale (Stack's, 3/1996), lot 59. NGC ID# 229H, PCGS# 2283



99025 1868 PR64 Red and Brown NGC. The surfaces are largely brown with tinges of mauve intermingling on each side but little evidence of true orange or red color. This piece is sharply struck but shows a streaky planchet, as do many survivors from this proof coinage. The reverse is rotated about 170 degrees from normal, a possible indication of restriking at a date later than that on the coin. NGC ID# 229L, PCGS# 2292



99026 1869 PR63 Red and Brown NGC. The obverse shows a speckled intermingling of brown, rose, and mauve patina, with the reverse offering color that is more consistent. The strike is also bolder on the reverse, where both the wreath and shield are nicely detailed. Most of the feather tips on the obverse are sharp, save for the foremost pair. Census: 12 in 63 Red and Brown, 88 finer (8/15). NGC ID# 229M, PCGS# 2295



99027 1872 PR63 Red and Brown NGC. The 1872 Indian cent issue is a high-demand date, whether in business-strike or proof format. This piece displays considerable luster with orange-tan patina prevailing amid a bold strike and much eye appeal for the grade. Even the forward feather tips are well, if not fully struck up. NGC ID# 229R, PCGS# 2304



99028 1872 PR63 Red and Brown NGC. Predominantly bright-orange, lustrous surfaces show minor tinges of lilac and brown that tip the color meter into the Red and Brown camp. This better-date proof Indian cent offers overall good eye appeal, but three noticeable contact marks on the Indian's cheek account for the grade. No obvious carbon appears on either side. NGC ID# 229R, PCGS# 2304



99029 1878 PR63 Red and Brown NGC. CAC. Orange, rose, lilac, and nut-brown intermingle on this attractive 1878 proof Indian cent. The surfaces display a nice sharp strike and trivial contact for the grade, removed from the focal points. Some blue accents and a couple of carbon spots appear within the wreath on the reverse. NGC ID# 229X, PCGS# 2322



99030 1884 PR64 Brown NGC. Brown and burgundy-colored fields show some muted orange remaining, all framing devices toned a silver-gray hue — an interesting and attractive coin with a “cameo” appearance, more prominent on the obverse, created strictly by color rather than contrast. Census: 51 in 64 Brown, 85 finer (8/15). NGC ID# 22A5, PCGS# 2339



99031 1885 PR64 Brown NGC. CAC. Like most proof survivors of this issue, the present piece is largely brown, although hints of rose appear scattered throughout both sides. The strike is sharply executed, save for the second feather tip. The reverse adds some bluish highlights, but both sides are carbon-free. NGC ID# 22A6, PCGS# 2342



99032 1885 PR64 Red and Brown NGC. CAC. The sharp proof strike produces good details on all feather tips, the necklace, the four diamonds, and throughout the wreath and shield. The surfaces are largely medium-brown with rose accents on the devices. One thin mark runs from the bottom of the shield, and scattered flecks show on each side. NGC ID# 22A6, PCGS# 2343

99033 No lot.



99034 1897 PR65 Brown NGC. Walnut-brown surfaces are highlighted by occasional forest-green hues on the obverse of this nicely preserved Gem proof Brown 1897 cent. The strike is sharp throughout the four diamonds on the ribbon, the necklace, the feather tips, and the intricate detailing on the reverse, which is more burgundy- and rose-colored. Census: 27 in 65 Brown, 17 finer (8/15). NGC ID# 22AK, PCGS# 2378



99035 1897 PR65 Brown NGC. CAC. The walnut-brown obverse fields complement forest-green devices and good preservation and strike. The reverse offers a similar appearance but adds a bit of rose and burgundy patina into the mix. An extremely attractive coin for the Gem Brown proof grade. Census: 27 in 65 Brown, 17 finer (8/15). One of five in this grade at CAC with four finer.
Ex: James Madison University-Dr. Alfred R. Globus Sale (Stack's, 9/2000), lot 167. NGC ID# 22AK, PCGS# 2378



99036 1902 PR65 Brown NGC. CAC. Despite the Brown appellation, some mint orange-rose color remains on the high points and scattered around the rims on each side of this Gem proof. The intricate strike comprises four diamonds on the ribbon and complete bead detail on the necklace, as well as sharp feather tips. Census: 10 in 65 (1 in 65 ★) Brown, 4 finer (8/15). CAC has given its approval to two coins in this grade out of the seven at NGC and PCGS combined. NGC ID# 22AR, PCGS# 2393



99037 1903 PR63 Brown NGC. A melange of rose, tan, orange, brown, and the prevailing burgundy color all intermingle on this coin to give it the Brown suffix. A sharp strike and surprisingly high eye appeal for the grade are definite pluses on this coin. It is likely the stippled color effect on the reverse is partially responsible for the grade. Census: 6 in 63 Brown, 22 finer (8/15). NGC ID# 22AS, PCGS# 2396



99038 1906 PR64 Red and Brown NGC. The obverse offers primarily bronze-gold color with splashes of violet and steel-blue over the headdress feathers, while the reverse is largely toned in the latter hues with glints of the former. The availability of 1906 Indian Head cent proofs through most grade levels and color designations provides the date or type collector with a variety of options from which to choose when searching for the ideal representative. From a mintage of 1,725 proofs. NGC ID# 22AV, PCGS# 2406



99039 1906 PR64 Red and Brown NGC. Rose centers complement the blue and burgundy hues appearing in the fields and comprising the Red and Brown appellation given to this nicely preserved near-Gem proof. The strike is quite sharp although there is little evidence of "red" appearing on the reverse. Census: 51 in 64 Red and Brown, 62 finer (8/15). NGC ID# 22AV, PCGS# 2406



99040 1906 PR64 Red and Brown NGC. The surfaces are medium burgundy-colored overall but show rose accents scattered here and there, most prominently in the feathers of the headdress. This sharply struck near-Gem proof shows excellent preservation with no mentionable contact or carbon visible. An occasional bluish tinge appears. Census: 51 in 64 Red and Brown, 62 finer (8/15). Ex: Lone Star Collection (Stack's, 9/2000), lot 181. NGC ID# 22AV, PCGS# 2406



99041 1907 PR65 Red and Brown NGC. Generous quantities of rose and mauve patina on the high points complement deeper brown and burgundy hues in the fields. This Gem Red and Brown proof displays excellent luster, preservation, and strike equally, but one small carbon fleck shows on the lower obverse near the date. The reverse is beautiful and carbon-free. Census: 33 in 65 Red and Brown, 13 finer (8/15). NGC ID# 22AW, PCGS# 2409

LINCOLN CENT



99042 1911-D MS64 Red and Brown NGC. CAC. We would call the obverse of this Lincoln cent more Red than Brown, the actual colors being much orange residing in the fields complementing lilac and brown on the remainder. The reverse, on the other hand, is more Brown than Red. The strike is nice and sharp, but some minor brownish flecks appear under a loupe. NGC ID# 23G6, PCGS# 2445

PROOF LINCOLN CENTS



99043 1912 PR63 Brown NGC. The surfaces are an attractive medium-brown with noticeable glints of orange mint color remaining near the rims and more prominently on the reverse. This sharply struck proof shows only minor ticks — one on Lincoln's coat — that explain the grade. Quite nice for the Select proof level. NGC ID# 22KV, PCGS# 3312



99044 1913 PR63 Brown NGC. Vertical woodgrain patina appears on both sides of this Select proof 1913 cent, the effect created by alternating stripes of sandy-tan and brown. The strike is uniformly sharp on the reverse, with full wheat ears and central legends. The obverse strike is mostly sharp, save for some of the beard details. Census: 15 in 63 Brown, 56 finer (8/15). NGC ID# 22KW, PCGS# 3315

99045 No lot.

PROOF TWO CENT PIECES



99046 1869 PR63 Red and Brown NGC. Minor proof coin mintages went unrecorded by Mint officials prior to 1878, but researchers believe at least 600 two cent proofs were struck in 1869. Mottled olive-brown and steel-blue patina graces surfaces that show additional areas of light tan-gold on the reverse. Contact marks are difficult to discern beneath the toning, and none are singularly distracting. NGC ID# 274Y, PCGS# 3640



99047 1870 PR63 Brown NGC. A two-toned "striped" appearance is created by a swath of lighter tan patina on each side contrasting against deeper brown and mauve hues. Considerable mint red remains. These late-series two cent issues are difficult in any grade. Census: 12 in 63 Brown, 39 finer (9/15). Ex: *Eliasberg Collection* (Bowers and Merena, 5/1996), lot 722, where it was cataloged as PR65 Brown. NGC ID# 274Z, PCGS# 3642

THREE CENT SILVER



99048 1851 MS63 PCGS. More than 5.4 million coins were struck in the denomination's first year, ensuring its status as one of the most collectible dates in the series. The dusky patina that covers this Select representative includes shades of violet-gray, sea-green, and russet. The luster is somewhat muted, while the design elements feature crisp detail. Minimally abraded for the grade. Ex: *W.R. Walling Collection* (Stack's, 3/1996), lot 185. NGC ID# 22YX, PCGS# 3664

99049 No lot.



99050 1852 — Improperly Cleaned — NGC Details. Unc. This Uncirculated survivor has surfaces lightly retoned in delicate violet-gray patina. The shield lines are boldly impressed, as are the stars. The noted cleaning does not overly detract. A mintage exceeding 18.6 million pieces makes the second-year 1852 issue popular for type representation. Ex: *Empire State Collection* (Stack's, 1/1997), lot 438.



99051 1852 MS64 NGC. CAC. An essentially all-brilliant second-year representative, this Choice three cent silver piece shows faint golden overtones when examined closely. The reverse further exhibits a handful of olive-gray toning specks. Each side features well-struck devices with typical softness on the left and lower stars. The reverse is lightly clashed with shield lines visible within the denomination. Ex: *W.R. Walling Collection* (Stack's, 3/1996), lot 186. NGC ID# 22YZ, PCGS# 3666



99052 1854 MS62 NGC. The 671,000-coin mintage of the 1854 three cent represented a significant decline from the 11.4 million production of the previous year. The issue is available in Uncirculated grades through MS64. Freckles of olive, lavender, russet, and greenish-gray patina appear throughout this MS62 representative, displaying somewhat deeper shades on the reverse. The design elements are well-defined, including the two lines outlining the obverse star, the horizontal and vertical lines within the shield, the veins in the leaves, and the arrow feathers. NGC ID# 22Z3, PCGS# 3670



99053 1854 MS63 PCGS. CAC. In 1854, James B. Longacre made several modifications to the three cent silver design, distinguishing the new lighter-weight coins composed of .900 silver from their earlier counterparts. Lines were added bordering the star, and olive leaves and arrows were added to the reverse. This coin is richly toned in violet-gray and olive patina and well-struck with a hint of softness on the stars and central olive leaf, as usual. The reverse is lightly clashed. Ex: *Stack's* (10/1996), lot 78. NGC ID# 22Z3, PCGS# 3670



99054 1861 MS64 PCGS. The legends exhibit needle-sharp strike definition, as do the olive leaves and stars. Golden-russet, crimson, and cobalt-blue hues cling to the edges, leaving the centers untuned. This is a strongly clashed Type Three example with distinct outlines of the reverse motifs visible on the obverse and vice versa. The 1861 claims a mintage of nearly half a million coins. Near-Gems appear at auction with relative frequency and are perfect for type purposes. Ex: *Purchased directly from Stack's* (5/1996). NGC ID# 22ZA, PCGS# 3679

PROOF THREE CENT SILVER



99055 1861 PR64 PCGS. CAC. According to Walter Breen's *Encyclopedia*, "1,000 proofs were delivered on April 15 with the sets, but over 600 were melted as unsold." Frosty devices and watery fields generate considerable contrast. Splashes of orange and rose toning surround violet, blue, and green hues on the obverse. The reverse is largely violet and sea-green in color. A couple of small contact marks appear on the denomination. Ex: *Chapman Brothers* (11/1901); *John M. Clapp*; *Clapp Estate* (1942); *Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection* (*Bowers and Merena*, 5/1996), lot 870. NGC ID# 27C8, PCGS# 3710



99056 1862 PR64 NGC. The Mint pulled back on proof production in 1862 after disappointing sales in 1860 and 1861, coining 550 three cent silver proofs rather than 1,000. This is a richly toned specimen from that relatively small mintage. Each side displays deep shades of blue, green, rose, and violet with lightly frosted central relief elements. The watery fields host a few tiny marks that prevent a higher grade, but they are unseen without the aid of a loupe. Ex: *Hubert Remick Collection* (*Stack's*, 9/1997), lot 522. NGC ID# 27C9, PCGS# 3711

99057 No lot.



99058 1869 PR63 PCGS. Silver coins were essentially unseen in everyday transactions by 1869, and the Mint only coined a small quantity of 4,500 three cent silver pieces. Additionally, 600 proofs were struck for collectors. This Select example offers light golden-gray, olive, and russet patina over each side with added blushes of blue on the reverse. A thin linear depression extends from the lower-right star notch to the right of the final A in AMERICA. Ex: *Queller Family Collection* (*Stack's*, 3/1997), lot 67. NGC ID# 22ZR, PCGS# 3719



99059 1870 PR63 PCGS. Gold CAC. Three cent silver pieces struck from the late 1860s on were coined to pay off odd amounts of gold purchases or silver deposits. Only 3,000 circulation strikes were produced in 1870 plus 1,000 proofs. This gorgeous Type Three proof offers pale bands of cobalt-blue, violet, and golden toning that progress inward from the margins, ceding to brilliant frosted centers. The surfaces are exceptionally clean for the assigned grade. The obverse is strongly contrasted, though the reverse is less so. NGC ID# 27CF, PCGS# 3721

99060 No lot.



99061 1872 PR64 PCGS. Three cent silver production totaled just 1,000 business strikes and 950 proofs in 1872. The circulation-strike mintage is the lowest in the series by 2,000 coins, placing added demand on the equally limited number of proofs. Lilac-gray centers blend with shades of blue, purple, olive-green, and russet, providing marvelous eye appeal and only limiting field reflectivity to a small degree. The surfaces are moderately contrasted with a few signs of trivial contact.
Ex: Lewis M. Reagan Collection (Stack's, 1/1996), lot 306. NGC ID# 27CH, PCGS# 3723

PROOF THREE CENT NICKELS



99062 1869 PR65 NGC. Trivial ticks on Liberty's cheek account for the grade on this nonetheless-appealing Gem proof three cent nickel, about an average grade for certified survivors of the reported mintage of 600 coins. Lightly toned and showing excellent eye appeal. Census: 81 in 65 (1 in 65 ★), 13 finer (8/15).
Ex: Herbert D. Spencer Sale (Bowers and Merena, 6/1996), lot 241. NGC ID# 275P, PCGS# 3765



99063 1873 Closed 3 PR65 NGC. CAC. A sharp proof strike enhances the surfaces of this Gem 1873 Closed 3 three cent nickel, virtually untuned save for a hint of gold at the extreme rims on each side. A curlicue lintmark on Liberty's cheek is the sole mentionable identifier, although it is nonetheless undisturbing. Higher-graded examples are considerably more elusive. An appealing coin for type purposes.
Ex: Savage Sale (Stack's, 10/1997), lot 278. NGC ID# 27CJ, PCGS# 3769



99064 1874 PR65 NGC. CAC. This largely untuned Gem proof 1874 three cent nickel is certified in one of the NGC old-style no-line fatty holders, showing much eye appeal despite a stray tick or two on Liberty's cheek and neck that may preclude an even finer grade. Census: 97 in 65 (1 in 65+, 2 in 65 ★), 29 finer (8/15). Only 16 Gem proofs have the CAC green approval.
Ex: Seymour Finkelstein Sale (Stack's, 10/1995), lot 186. NGC ID# 275V, PCGS# 3770



99065 1882 PR63 NGC. CAC. The rose-gray surfaces of this Select proof boast a high degree of luster and show considerable eye appeal despite a couple of drawbacks, namely some small areas of milky spotting behind Liberty's head and some undistracting hairlines showing in the left obverse field. The proofs of this date are in demand because so few business strikes were produced — 22,000 pieces. NGC ID# 2764, PCGS# 3778



99066 1884 PR66 Cameo PCGS. CAC. Light pastel patina in shades of rose and mint nonetheless does not defeat the perceptible contrast between the devices and the reflective fields, making the Cameo designation appropriate. High-end surface preservation is consistent with the Premium Gem grade level of this piece. Only 1,700 business strikes were made, exerting added pressure on nice proofs such as this example. Population: 60 in 66 Cameo, 32 finer (8/15). NGC ID# 2766, PCGS# 83780



99067 1886 PR65 PCGS. CAC. The surfaces show rose-gold patina amid a bold strike and excellent preservation with no mentionable signs of contact. The strike is needle-sharp throughout both sides save for the upper-right reverse, where a bit of planchet roughness interferes. This late-series Gem proof three cent nickel is certified in an old small-size PCGS green-label holder with the CAC green approval sticker.
Ex: George C. Perkins Esq. Sale (Stack's, 1/1998), lot 1075. NGC ID# 2768, PCGS# 3782

99068 No lot.



99069 1889 — Reverse Struck Through — Mint Error PR65 NGC. The description is exactly as printed on the NGC insert. The surfaces are deep rose-gold, sharply struck, and pleasingly attractive. A piece of wire or similar object was lying on the upper-right wreath area of the reverse die when this piece was struck, producing a nearly straight indent on that portion of the coin. NGC ID# 22NW, PCGS# 3786



99070 1889 PR65 NGC. CAC. A Gem proof example of the last-year three cent nickel issue. The surfaces are lightly toned and pleasing, save for one glancing contact mark on Liberty's cheek. The 1889 saw only 18,000 circulation strikes issued, and today likely only a few dozen Gem examples survive, exerting extra pressure on the proofs. NGC ID# 22NW, PCGS# 3786

SHIELD NICKEL



99071 1870 MS64 NGC. The dove-gray surfaces show a trace of rose in the fields and few post-Mint distractions, save for one thin scrape on the reverse. Extensive die cracks appear on the obverse along with prominent die lines in the lower shield region. The reverse shows more-moderate die cracks. An appealing and interesting coin for the grade. Census: 68 in 64 (1 in 64+), 48 finer (8/15). NGC ID# 22P4, PCGS# 3797

PROOF SHIELD NICKELS



99072 1869 PR64 NGC. CAC. Creamy luster and good contrast appear on each side of this attractive near-Gem proof 1869 Shield nickel. The silver-white surfaces are untoned throughout and show a nice, uniformly sharp proof strike throughout, including all star centers on the reverse. A few tiny contact ticks account for the grade but are undistracting.
Ex: Pennsylvania Cabinet Sale (Bowers and Merena, 11/1997), lot 239. NGC ID# 276K, PCGS# 3823



99073 1872 PR66 NGC. CAC. This nearly all-brilliant Premium Gem proof shows a few blushes of light champagne-gold color on the reverse. Close inspection finds a few scattered ticks and lint marks over each side, but the compelling eye appeal is unaffected. Like the *Cherrypickers'* FS-101 variety listed for circulation strikes, the obverse is boldly die doubled south-southeast. Doubling is clearest on the annulet, shield lines, and olive leaves. Census: 55 in 66, 6 finer (8/15). CAC has approved only 19 in this grade. NGC ID# 22P6, PCGS# 3826

99074 No lot.



99075 1874 PR63 NGC. CAC. The obverse of this Shield nickel proof on its own would undoubtedly merit a higher grade, boasting a strong strike and top-notch eye appeal. But the reverse shows an apparent planchet flaw through the central 5 digit and some roughness nearby, undoubtedly all as produced at the Mint. Only 700 examples were struck. NGC ID# 276R, PCGS# 3828



99076 1876 PR66 PCGS. This crisply struck Premium Gem proof example of the Centennial nickel issue displays lovely olive-green, sun-gold, and apricot toning. A solitary minuscule fleck appears on the center of the shield. Population: 29 in 66 (1 in 66+), 1 finer (8/15).
Ex: Dallas Signature (Heritage, 10/2006), lot 437; Summer FUN Signature (Heritage, 7/2007), lot 301; FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2009), lot 651; purchased from David Lawrence (8/2010). NGC ID# 4S39, PCGS# 3830



99077 1876 PR64 Cameo NGC. CAC. Nicely contrasted central devices and reflective fields are complemented by a crescent of patina on this near-Gem proof 1876 Shield nickel. The sharp strike and few distractions of any sort, save for a few minuscule flecks, give this piece much eye appeal. Census: 32 in 64 Cameo (1 in 64+ Cameo), 79 finer (8/15). NGC ID# 276T, PCGS# 83830



99078 1879/8 PR65 ANACS. Breen-2514, as noted on the ANACS insert. Numismatists disagree on whether this is a true overdate or merely a date showing some repunching on the 9. This Gem proof shows a light overlay of patina amid good preservation and excellent eye appeal.
Ex: Lindesmith, LaRiviere Sale (Bowers and Merena, 11/1999), lot 1011. NGC ID# 22PG, PCGS# 3834



99079 1881 PR65 NGC. CAC. A largely brilliant-frosty coin save for a touch of gold patina on both sides, this Gem proof shows good preservation despite a couple of minor contact marks on the shield. Another Eliasberg coin nestled in the Gene Gardner Collection, this Shield nickel was even earlier in excellent company: Lot 807, a couple of pages over in the Eliasberg catalog, was the 1913 Liberty nickel.
Ex: Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; Eliasberg Collection (Bowers and Merena, 5/1996), lot 768. NGC ID# 5L6U, PCGS# 3836



99080 1881 PR65 PCGS. CAC. This lightly patinated Gem proof 1881 Shield nickel boasts strong eye appeal with a bold strike and relatively few contact marks for the grade. Its allure for many collectors will be further enhanced by its PCGS green-label holder and CAC green approval sticker. The collecting style of "green on green" PCGS-certified coins is one that seems to have taken firm hold among a subset of the collecting community. NGC ID# 5L6U, PCGS# 3836



99081 1882 PR66+ NGC. The surfaces scarcely show a trace of disturbance on this impeccably preserved Premium Gem proof 1882 Shield nickel, the next-to-last issue in this short-lived (and much-maligned at the time of its debut) series. A boldly struck coin with great eye appeal but little toning. Census: 6 in 66+, 1 in 66 ★, 41 finer (8/15). NGC ID# 276Y, PCGS# 3837

LIBERTY NICKELS



99082 1883 No Cents MS64 PCGS. CAC. Not an uncommon coin by any means, this 1883 No Cents Liberty nickel nonetheless has much going for it (besides the Gene Gardner Collection pedigree). Lovely rainbow iridescence is a big plus, as are the CAC endorsement and the needle-sharp strike. A light die crack meanders through portions of the date, the bust truncation, and star 1.

Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 2772, PCGS# 3841



99083 1883 With Cents MS64 PCGS. CAC. This near-Gem 1883 With Cents nickel is a great complement to its No Cents counterpart in the present auction, both coins well-matched and showing a pleasing panoply of rainbow iridescence on both sides amid good preservation. An extremely attractive example of this second first-year variety.
Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 22PH, PCGS# 3844



99084 1887 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Beautiful rainbow patina cascades in waves across both sides of this stunning Gem nickel, sure to be an instant collector favorite. Gene Gardner's passion for problem-free "color coins" is on full display here. The surfaces brim with lively luster and are free of mentionable distractions. Population: 92 in 65, 27 finer (8/15). CAC has given the green approval to only 12 Gem examples. NGC ID# 22PL, PCGS# 3848



99085 1888 MS64 PCGS. CAC. Copious mint luster and lavish reddish-gold patina with faint jade accents enhance the surfaces of this near-Gem 1888 Liberty nickel, part of a complete set (no 1913!) that Gene Gardner purchased in 2007. A single tick before Liberty's mouth is among the few mentionable signs of contact. Despite much larger overall population numbers for the issue, CAC narrows down the number with its green approval sticker to only 13 in this grade and 20 finer (8/15).
Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 2774, PCGS# 3849



99086 1889 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Ex: Frank Thomas. Beautiful golden-rose patina washes over both sides of this better-date Gem Liberty nickel. There are only trivial marks on either side. The strike is soft on most of the obverse star centers and on the hair below LIBERTY, but otherwise this piece generates a great deal of eye appeal. Trivial planchet roughness shows inside the left wreath branch. PCGS reports only 26 in MS66 or finer (8/15).
Ex: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (12/2007). NGC ID# 2775, PCGS# 3850



99087 1890 MS64 PCGS. CAC. Beautiful mint luster coats both sides of this near-Gem 1890 nickel, complementing the abundant patina in shades of amber, jade, and mauve that enriches both sides. A few of the star centers lack definition along with some of the hair over the brow, but there are few signs of contact for the grade.
Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 22PM, PCGS# 3851



99088 1891 MS65 NGC. Rich mint luster of the cartwheel sort decorates the surfaces of this untoned Gem 1891 nickel. The strike is remarkably bold on all stars and on the wreath, save for trivial weakness on the lower-left side, as usually seen. A few ticks on Liberty's neck determine the grade. Census: 61 in 65 (1 in 65+, 1 in 65 ★), 14 finer (8/15).
Ex: Pennsylvania Cabinet, Norweb et al. Sale (Bowers and Merena, 11/1997), lot 329. NGC ID# 2776, PCGS# 3852



99089 1891 MS65 PCGS. The deeply toned surfaces and over-the-top mint luster will make this coin an instant collector favorite. Rainbow iridescence and excellent preservation round out an extremely attractive offering. A wispy die crack connects the bust to star 1. PCGS reports only 28 submissions in higher grades (8/15).
Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 2776, PCGS# 3852



99090 1892 MS64 PCGS. Not only the rich mint luster and lavish rose-orange color make this coin appealing, but the die crack that encircles much of the obverse periphery, spreading out at 189 in the date into a heavier break, will make this a fascinating late-die-state acquisition for some clever bidder. Gorgeous aesthetically and interesting technically.
Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 2777, PCGS# 3853



99091 1893 MS64 PCGS. CAC. The 1893 Liberty nickel is a slightly better date within the series, and this near-Gem, boasting rich multicolor patina, great mint luster, and the CAC endorsement to boot, will definitely be a favorite acquisition for the top bidder among the many who will be interested. The sharp strike and noteworthy preservation are suggestive of an even finer grade. CAC has stickered only 10 pieces in MS64 (8/15).
Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 2778, PCGS# 3854



99092 1894 MS64 PCGS. The 1894 Liberty nickel is a much better date within the series, given its surprisingly small mintage of 4.3 million coins. Rose- and ice-blue-tinged surfaces show good preservation overall. One spot of oil-slick iridescence appears between the date and star 13.

Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 2779, PCGS# 3855



99093 1896 MS64 PCGS. This near-Gem Liberty nickel, like most of its cohorts in this well-matched set, features lavish mint luster and rainbow iridescent color that color enthusiasts will find incredibly appealing. The strike is nicely brought up overall on this piece, another plus.

Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 277B, PCGS# 3857



99094 1897 MS64 PCGS. CAC. The generous mint luster complements patina that is largely jade-tinged on the obverse and rose-tinged on the reverse, but the excellent preservation and bold strike are uniformly appealing throughout. CAC has awarded its green approval sticker to only seven pieces in this grade and 19 finer (8/15).

Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 22PN, PCGS# 3858



99095 1898 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Generous mint luster prevails amid a wash of predominantly rose-gold patina on both sides of this eye-appealing Gem coin. The strike is phenomenally bold throughout and could rival many proof examples. If there ever is a "Full Corn" grade established for the series, this piece would be first in line. Although PCGS reports 96 submissions in the Gem grade, CAC tells a far different story, having stickered only 14 pieces in MS65 including the present piece (8/15).

Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 22PP, PCGS# 3859



99096 1899 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Gleaming luster appears amid rose-gold centers that deepen at the rims to pale ice-blue and violet patina, creating fantastic eye appeal. All of the stars and Liberty's hair are quite sharply struck, although a couple of thin marks appear on the lower portion of her profile. A beautiful example of the date.

Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 22PR, PCGS# 3860



99097 1900 MS64 PCGS. Glistening mint luster complements deep toning, central rose blending into gold and pale blue at the rims. There are few signs of contact. It is likely that the small dark spot in the obverse field and the soft strike on the lower reverse are the only features precluding a Gem grade.

Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 22PS, PCGS# 3861



99098 1901 MS65 PCGS. The patina on this Gem 1901 nickel is multicolor but pastel, expansive rather than deep. One small fleck near star 2 does not much bother, given the great luster, attractive toning and a nice sharp strike, save for the usual area on the lower-left wreath.
Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 277C, PCGS# 3862



99099 1902 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Despite the gargantuan mintage exceeding 31 million coins, the 1902 Liberty nickel is challenging in grades finer than Gem condition. This Gem CAC example boasts luminous mint luster amid the toning, a bit more colorful on the reverse than the obverse. Well-struck save for the usual area on the lower reverse wreath. Only 24 Gem-graded coins at PCGS and NGC combined have the CAC green approval (8/15).
Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 277D, PCGS# 3863



99100 1903 MS63 NGC. CAC. An untuned Select example of this late-series V nickel date, showing a nice bold strike on Liberty's hair and all star radials. Generous mint luster is present, but a higher grade is precluded by trivial ticks, a couple on Liberty but more prominent on either side of the V on the reverse.
Ex: Pennsylvania Cabinet, Norweb et al. Sale (Bowers and Merena, 11/1997), lot 350. NGC ID# 277E, PCGS# 3864



99101 1903 MS64 PCGS. Central rose-gold patina on each side melds into jade, aqua, and amber tones nearer the rims on this near-Gem 1903 nickel. Ample mint luster on each side enlivens the surfaces and provides abundant eye appeal. One dark fleck in Liberty's headdress apparently precludes a Gem grade.
Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 277E, PCGS# 3864



99102 1904 MS63 PCGS. Deep golden-violet patina in the centers cedes to pale ice-blue shades near the rims on both sides of this Select 1904 Liberty nickel, one of a complete Mint State (save for the 1885, which was a PR64 PCGS coin) collection that Gene Gardner acquired from popular coin dealer Larry Whitlow. This is a seemingly undergraded coin, to our eyes.
Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 277F, PCGS# 3865



99103 1904 MS64 NGC. CAC. The rose-gray surfaces host generous luster and good eye appeal. A few marks on and before the profile of Liberty, along with some strike softness on each side, account for the grade. The expansive luster on this near-Gem is an obvious plus.
Ex: Pennsylvania Cabinet, Norweb et al. Sale (Bowers and Merena, 11/1997), lot 352. NGC ID# 277F, PCGS# 3865



99104 1905 MS64 PCGS. Rose-gold and violet hues prevail in the center regions against tinges of pale ice-blue nearer the rims of this near-Gem 1905 nickel. Most off the star centers are well-struck save for those on the lower left. A severe dig from the rim through star 9 is a drawback. Another minor scrape shows on Liberty's neck.
Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 277G, PCGS# 3866



99105 1906 MS63 PCGS. Deep orange-red patina prevails on each side of this Select 1906 Liberty nickel. An intricate strike on the hair and most of the wreath and stars is a definite plus, although distributed small marks on Liberty's profile account for the grade. Nonetheless an attractive coin.
Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 277H, PCGS# 3867



99106 1906 MS65 PCGS. Lavish rose-gold patina and rich mint luster make a winning combination on this Gem 1906 Liberty nickel, an issue that is markedly elusive in any higher numerical grade; PCGS reports only 21 submissions in MS66 or finer (8/15).
Ex: Purchased from David Lawrence (6/2007). NGC ID# 277H, PCGS# 3867



99107 1907 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Luminous mint luster complements surfaces that are largely gold-toned on the obverse and show more of a subtle pastel rainbow effect on the reverse. The 1907 is a better date in Gem and finer grades, despite its enormous mintage of nearly 40 million coins. PCGS reports 89 submissions in this grade and 31 finer; NGC shows 81 in MS65 and 11 finer. Of those 170 submissions in Gem grade, only 16 have the CAC green approval (8/15).
Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 277J, PCGS# 3868



99108 1908 MS63 PCGS. The obverse boasts flashy concentric patina — rose-violet in the center, radiating outward to jade, canary-gold, and amber. The reverse shows jade and gold predominating, but both sides offer great luster and good eye appeal, despite the flat strike on the lower-left wreath area.
Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 24FR, PCGS# 3869



99109 1909 MS64 PCGS. CAC. The surfaces are highly lustrous throughout both sides, showing an attractive but light overlay of patina and minimal marks for the grade. The strike is uniformly sharp, including the star centers and the ear of corn on the lower-reverse wreath. Only 16 pieces in MS64 have the CAC green approval, and 21 higher-graded coins (8/15).
Ex: Pennsylvania Cabinet, Norweb et al. Sale (Bowers and Merena, 11/1997), lot 364. NGC ID# 277K, PCGS# 3870



99110 1909 MS64 PCGS. CAC. Rose-lilac centers are bounded by jade and amber hues around the peripheries of this near-Gem 1909 Liberty nickel. The sharp strike accounts for full radials on each star and good, if not thorough, definition on Liberty's hair. The lower reverse wreath area is decently struck as well.
Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 277K, PCGS# 3870



99111 1910 MS65 PCGS. Every star radial is boldly brought up on this attractive Gem 1910 Liberty nickel featuring rich luster on rose-gray surfaces. A few scattered ticks determine the grade but fail to defeat the eye appeal. PCGS shows only 22 in higher grades (8/15).
Ex: Pennsylvania Cabinet, Norweb et al. Sale (Bowers and Merena, 11/1997), lot 366. NGC ID# 277L, PCGS# 3871



99112 1910 MS65 PCGS. The deep patina on each side of this Gem features largely violet-purple hues with crescents of amber-gold nearer the rims. There are few marks for the grade seen throughout, although the strike is lacking on the hair beneath the coronet and on portions of the lower wreath.
Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 277L, PCGS# 3871



99113 1911 MS63 PCGS. The vivid patina on the obverse is a lower deep-amber crescent, blending into gold, jade, and lilac hues moving upward, with a similar effect appearing from top to bottom on the reverse. A medium-sized spot on Liberty's hairbun, scattered ticks, and a middling strike preclude a finer grade.
Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 277M, PCGS# 3872



99114 1912 MS65 PCGS. CAC. Bountiful mint luster complements the vivid patina in shades of deep amber-gold, jade, blue, and lilac-purple on well-struck surfaces that are free of mentionable abrasions, save for a couple of small ticks at the corner of Liberty's mouth. CAC reports only 19 in MS65 with the green approval sticker, 10 finer (8/15).
Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 277N, PCGS# 3873

99115 No lot.



99116 1912-D MS64 NGC. CAC. Generous luster peeks out from underneath lavish layers of deep rose-gold patina on both sides of this attractive near-Gem 1912-D nickel. The strike is about what one would expect from this issue — a tad soft on the hair above the forehead, and a bit sharper than usual on the lower-left wreath area. A pleasing example of this mintmarked Liberty nickel semikey. CAC has stickered only 25 in this grade (8/15). NGC ID# 277P, PCGS# 3874

PROOF LIBERTY NICKELS



- 99117 1883 No Cents PR65 PCGS. CAC.** The 1883 No Cents was the second proof of three designs issued during the year, the first being the last entry in the Shield nickel series. The 1883 No Cents is actually the lowest-mintage proof, although not by a great deal, of the three, if current *Guide Book* figures turn out to be accurate. This is an extremely appealing Gem example certified in a PCGS green-label holder with CAC green approval sticker. Only light concentric patina appears on each side, accenting the high eye appeal. The strike is weak in the usual area of the reverse.
Ex: Perkins Sale (Stack's, 1/1998), lot 1086. NGC ID# 22PU, PCGS# 3878



- 99118 1883 With Cents PR65 NGC.** The surfaces are largely brilliant but intermingled with dabs of gold patina on each side. The strike is quite nicely impressed, even on that pesky lower-left ear of corn. Some field-device contrast also adds to the eye appeal.
Ex: Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; Eliasberg Collection (Bowers and Merena, 5/1996), lot 775. NGC ID# 277S, PCGS# 3881



- 99119 1884 PR64 PCGS. CAC.** This better-date near-Gem proof boasts intricate detail throughout the rose- and blue-tinged surfaces, displaying all star centers and strong articulation even on the lower-left wreath area, a problematic spot for most business strikes and many proofs. CAC has approved nine in this grade with 31 finer (8/15). NGC ID# 22PV, PCGS# 3882



- 99120 1886 PR64 PCGS. CAC.** The strike is sharp throughout, and razor-sharp on the hair, stars, and wreath, save for one or two star centers and the lower-left ear of corn. Minor ticks and a couple of abstruse flecks on the reverse explain the grade. The 1886 is a better date in the series in both proof and business-strike formats.
Ex: Empire State Collection (Stack's, 1/1997), lot 457. NGC ID# 277U, PCGS# 3884



- 99121 1887 PR66 PCGS.** This powerfully struck Premium Gem proof requires strong magnification to see any sign of contact. The star radials and Liberty's hair are all bold, and all the wreath details are similarly strong — even the lower-left ear of corn is full. An attractive example in high grade. Population: 57 in 66, 4 finer (8/15). NGC ID# 277V, PCGS# 3885



- 99122 1888 PR63 PCGS. CAC.** The rose-gray surfaces are surprisingly appealing given the grade, showing a nice sharp strike throughout both sides and fewer signs of contact than might be imagined. A couple of small ticks on each side are undistracting, although we note a couple of flecks on the reverse. NGC ID# 277W, PCGS# 3886



99123 1888 PR65 NGC. Rich luster on both sides complements a lavish overlay of copper-gold patina on this Gem proof, an unusual but beautiful display. The strike is sharp throughout both sides. Frosty devices and good preservation complete the broad eye appeal.
Ex: Dr. Carl A. Minning, Jr. Sale (Bowers and Merena 8/1999), lot 1248. NGC ID# 277W, PCGS# 3886



99124 1889 PR65 NGC. CAC. The surfaces of this Gem proof 1889 nickel are lightly toned rose-gray and show minimal signs of contact, save for two minuscule ticks on Liberty's neck. This piece's CAC sticker puts it among 23 such in this grade with 26 finer (8/15).
Ex: Spencer Sale (Bowers and Merena, 6/1996), lot 290. NGC ID# 277X, PCGS# 3887



99125 1889 PR66 PCGS. A sharp strike and impeccable preservation enhance the surfaces of this moderately toned Premium Gem proof 1889 Liberty nickel. Even the lower-left ear of corn on the reverse and the hair above the forehead show a wealth of intricate detail. PCGS reports only 10 in finer grades (8/15).
Ex: Purchased from Larry Whitlow (5/2007). NGC ID# 277X, PCGS# 3887



99126 1893 PR66 NGC. CAC. More than a little field-device contrast is present on this pleasing Premium Gem proof, even if it is insufficient for a Cameo designation. The surfaces show nice frost on the devices and good mirroring in the fields. A sharp strike and a light wash of rose-gray patina complete the eye appeal. Census: 39 in 66 (2 in 66+), 15 finer (8/15). This better-date coin is among only nine in this grade with the CAC green approval.
Ex: Pennsylvania Cabinet, Norweb et al. Sale (Bowers and Merena, 11/1997), lot 332. NGC ID# 2783, PCGS# 3891



99127 1893 PR65 Cameo NGC. The surfaces of this Gem Cameo proof 1893 Liberty nickel show a pleasing silver-gray-on-black effect created by the richly frosted devices contrasting against deeply mirrored fields on both sides. The strike is full throughout both sides, emphasizing the meticulous preservation. Census: 41 in 65 Cameo (2 in 65+ Cameo, 1 in 65 ★ Cameo), 35 finer (8/15). NGC ID# 2783, PCGS# 83891



99128 1899 PR65 NGC. CAC. This untuned silver-white Gem proof 1899 nickel beams with lively reflectivity in the fields and generous mint frost on the devices, even if no Cameo designation is forthcoming. A few faint marks on the neck account for the grade, but this sharply struck coin offers eye appeal to spare. NGC ID# 2789, PCGS# 3897

99129 No lot.



99130 1904 PR64 NGC. CAC. The dove-gray surfaces are nicely brought up on this near-Gem proof and show only the most minor signs of contact. There is little field-device contrast, as expected for these later-date proofs. The lack of toning, however, actually emphasizes what is a nicely bold strike. NGC ID# 278E, PCGS# 3902



99131 1906 PR65 NGC. This Gem proof 1906 nickel is sharply struck and pleasing throughout, despite a couple of small, curlicue lintmarks on the figure of Liberty. Described in the Halpern catalog as "lightly frosted head is haloed by a cartwheel reflective field." Ex: *Herman Halpern Collection (Stack's, 5/1999)*, lot 2067. NGC ID# 278G, PCGS# 3904



99132 1908 PR64 NGC. CAC. The well-struck rose-gold surfaces of this near-Gem proof are interrupted in Liberty's hair by streaks of deeper orange patina. There are few signs of contact for the grade, and the eye appeal is quite high throughout both sides. Ex: *Empire State Collection (Stack's, 1/1997)*, lot 479. NGC ID# 278J, PCGS# 3906



99133 1908 PR64 NGC. CAC. The lightly toned rose-gold surfaces of this near-Gem proof display an excellent sharp strike and lots of eye appeal throughout the surfaces. The strike is nicely brought up on the lower-left wreath details, and there are few signs of contact for the grade. Ex: *Herman Halpern (Stack's, 5/1999)*, lot 2069. NGC ID# 278J, PCGS# 3906



99134 1909 PR66 NGC. The surfaces are well-preserved, largely untuned and show considerable cameo contrast. A tiny bit of verdigris appears on the 0 in the date. Another bit shows on the last A in AMERICA, the only drawbacks on this coin of overall quite high quality and eye appeal. Ex: *Herbert D. Spencer (Bowers and Merena, 6/1996)*, lot 297. NGC ID# 278K, PCGS# 3907



99135 1910 PR65 NGC. CAC. This lightly toned Gem proof shows much mint frost on the devices and a needle-sharp strike, but the grade is no doubt held back somewhat by an obvious fingerprint on the left side of the obverse and extending onto Liberty's profile. Ex: *Pennsylvania Cabinet, Norweb, et al. Sale (Bowers and Merena, 11/1997)*, lot 365. NGC ID# 278L, PCGS# 3908



99136 1912 PR65 PCGS. CAC. A beautifully preserved example of this last-year proof issue among the regular-issue Liberty nickels, this Gem boasts a razor-sharp strike throughout both sides and shows no mentionable drawbacks. CAC has given its green approval sticker to only 12 coins in PR65 and 14 finer (8/15).
Ex: Hubert Remick Collection (Stack's, 9/1997), lot 575. NGC ID# 278N, PCGS# 3910

BUFFALO NICKEL



99137 1916 MS64 PCGS. CAC. With a mintage approaching 63.5 million coins, the 1916 Buffalo nickel is an available issue through most Mint State grade levels. Examples can be found fully struck and highly lustrous, adding to the issue's appeal among type specialists. This is one such coin with nickel-gray surfaces that show blushes of peach-orange, blue, and lavender iridescence. NGC ID# 22RA, PCGS# 3930

JEFFERSON NICKEL



99138 1944-D MS67 Toned NGC. A coin that likely derives from the Appalachian Hoard of Jefferson nickels found in 2000, this spectacular Superb Gem features variegated shades of magenta, jade-green, orange, and electric-blue. Well-struck devices exhibit typical softness toward the central reverse. NGC briefly used the T designation around the turn of the century to identify fully toned coins. Impeccably preserved with unsurpassed eye appeal. NGC reports just four examples finer (8/15).
Ex: Purchased from Aspen Park Rare Coins (8/2012). NGC ID# 22TV, PCGS# 4023

SEATED HALF DIMES



99139 1839 No Drapery — Obverse Improperly Cleaned — NGC Details. Unc. V-2. This variety is distinguished by the repunched 9 in the date. Stars 5, 6, and 8 exhibit recutting. The date is low, closer to the rim than to the base of Liberty. Despite the stated impairment, this two-toned example presents a pleasing contrast between the dusky fields and the more lightly toned central figure. The reverse is brilliant with wisps of maroon about the upper letters.
Ex: Stack's (10/1997), lot 416.



99140 1843 MS63 PCGS. V-4. Interest in terminal die-state Liberty Seated coinage has increased in recent years with the 1839 Fortin-105c dime, featuring a pie-shaped shattered obverse, leading the way. The radial cracks on reverse of this example are similar, albeit less dramatic. Brilliant surfaces are surrounded by an obverse band of russet coloration through the stars and date, while the reverse features a streak of champagne patina diagonally bisecting the wreath. Two hidden marks above the shield limit the grade.
Ex: 60th Anniversary Sale (Stack's, 10/1995), lot 289. NGC ID# 2334, PCGS# 4332



99141 1844 MS64 PCGS. V-3. The variety set for the 1844 half dime consists of three distinct date styles. The V-1 slopes down from left to right, while the V-2 is nearly even. This V-3 example features a prominent overdate and would be an excellent start to such a set. Even gray toning covers this Choice Uncirculated half dime with a few lighter shades of rose within the gown. The reverse color is a touch lighter, and a few gold-toned leaves contrast with the violet-gray fields. Population: 20 in 64, 46 finer (8/15).
Ex: Hubert Remick Collection (Stack's, 9/1997), lot 653. NGC ID# 2335, PCGS# 4333



99142 1848-O — Improperly Cleaned — NGC Details. Unc. V-4. Small O. The date shifts down from left to right, and there is a reverse die crack above ME in AMERICA. The obverse rim exhibits cuds from 11 to 4 o'clock. Gray toning in the right field offsets lighter shades within Liberty and the stars to the right. The richly toned reverse center gives way to hues of blue-green and rust at the peripheries. The luster is diminished, but the fields are smooth on this well-detailed example.
Ex: *Empire State Collection (Stack's, 1/1997), lot 252.*



99143 1852 — Improperly Cleaned — NGC Details. Unc. V-2. Ex: Pittman. The date is high but not touching the base. There is a reverse die break above TE of STATES. Blue-green and rose ring a brilliant center, while a few hairlines on the reverse bear evidence of the stated impairment. After a 30-year hiatus, Gene Gardner resumed coin collecting in the mid-1990s, just in time for the Eliasberg and Pittman sales. This coin is traced back to Pittman's original purchase, and the winning bidder will be able to add their name to a noteworthy provenance.
Ex: *17th Catalog (New Netherlands, 5/1944), lot 789; John Jay Pittman Collection, Part One (David Akers, 10/1997), lot 491.*



99144 1853-O Arrows MS61 NGC. V-2. The date is high, with the 3 noticeably lower than the other digits. The obverse of this Uncirculated piece exhibits scattered crimson toning, with darker shades about the date and base. The reverse is more brilliant with multicolored rim toning to the right. Aside from a couple of ticks on Liberty, this example is largely mark-free. Die clashing shows on the reverse. Census: 5 in 61, 41 finer (8/15).
Ex: *Empire State Collection (Stack's, 1/1997), lot 500. NGC ID# 233Z, PCGS# 4357*



99145 1857-O MS62 NGC. CAC. V-3. The 1 in the date is high and almost touches the rock, while the 5 has an open loop. This Uncirculated half dime exhibits brilliance in the protected areas with deeper gray toning across the devices. There is a hint of evergreen within the figure of Liberty, and some die clashing appears on both sides. Liberty Seated coinage need not be expensive to be attractive, and this collectible half dime, with the Gardner Collection pedigree, will draw the attention of the budget-minded bidder.
Ex: *Hubert Remick Collection (Stack's, 9/1997), lot 662. NGC ID# 233T, PCGS# 4366*



99146 1858-O MS64 PCGS. CAC. V-1. The second 8 in the date is slightly lower than the 5. Liberty Seated coinage from the New Orleans Mint improved in quality in the 1850s, and this example exhibits well-defined star centers along with strong, even dentils. Antique-gray patina blankets this Choice Uncirculated example with highlights of chestnut toning over each side. Both dies are moderately clashed, and surface abrasions are minimal. Population: 55 in 64 (1 in 64+), 26 finer (8/15).
Ex: *Empire State Collection (Stack's, 1/1997), lot 253. NGC ID# 233V, PCGS# 4369*



99147 1859 MS63 PCGS. V-2. This two-toned half dime exhibits a brilliant figure of Liberty surrounded by slate patina throughout the fields. The stars reveal hints of navy coloration toward the periphery. The reverse features a silver-gray center with concentric rings of tan and cobalt outside the wreath. A few marks are scattered across the breast of Liberty, while the reverse is minimally abraded.
Ex: *Hubert Remick Collection (Stack's, 9/1997), lot 665. NGC ID# 233W, PCGS# 4371*



99148 1859 MS63 PCGS. CAC. V-1. The date is somewhat high in the field, and the 1 is visibly repunched to the south. Deep toning covers both obverse and reverse of this CAC-approved example. The iridescent obverse exhibits a ring of mahogany coloration at the borders, ceding to blue-green and gray at the center. The reverse exhibits charcoal hues throughout. Liberty's left arm and breast show a few small marks. From a mintage of 340,000 coins.
Ex: Queller Family Collection (Stack's, 3/1997), lot 364. NGC ID# 233W, PCGS# 4371



99149 1860-O MS63 PCGS. V-3. The ribbon ends are just clear of the wreath on each side, and there is a crack from the tip of the right ribbon to the leaf. Even steel-gray patina covers the obverse of this Select Uncirculated half dime. The fields are smooth, though the figure of Liberty reveals a pair of marks hidden in the skirt. The reverse is more colorful and exhibits champagne overtones throughout. The Mint moved the legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA from the reverse of the half dime to the obverse in 1860. This coin is a pleasing representative of the type and, in the MS63 grade, eminently collectible.
Ex: U.S. Gold, Silver and Copper Coins (Stack's, 10/1996), lot 146. NGC ID# 2348, PCGS# 4378



99150 1860-O MS64 PCGS. V-1. The mintmark is low, the left ribbon just clears the wreath, and the right ribbon is fully separated from the wreath. The year 1860 represents the conclusion of the half dime denomination at the New Orleans Mint. Crescents of aqua envelop the obverse legend of this near-Gem, while reddish-brown sprinkles the fields. The centers on each side reveal light gold, and the reverse exhibits additional shades of copper within the wreath. The surfaces are smooth with partly subdued luster. Population: 52 in 64 (3 in 64+), 32 finer (8/15).
Ex: United States Gold, Silver and Copper Coins (Stack's, 9/1997), lot 666. NGC ID# 2348, PCGS# 4378



99151 1861 MS64 PCGS. CAC. Deep gold and green cover the obverse fields of this CAC-approved half dime, with lighter tones of russet and lemon at the periphery. The lighter center of the reverse hosts rings of copper and aqua at the rim. Beautiful coins need not be expensive, and our consignor was adept at discerning aesthetic appeal regardless of the price point. This collectible piece is such an example, a worthy addition to any collection.
Ex: Hawn, Miller, Globus Sale (Stack's, 5/1998), lot 378. NGC ID# 2349, PCGS# 4379



99152 1861 MS64 PCGS. CAC. Attractive gray toning evenly covers both sides of this near-Gem, CAC-approved half dime. The date exhibits evidence of repunching, a feature frequently encountered in the Seated Liberty series. Fully struck and without surface distractions, this is an ideal half dime for type purposes.
Ex: Purchased from Bowers & Merena (6/1997). NGC ID# 2349, PCGS# 4379



99153 1872-S Mintmark Above Bow MS64 NGC. CAC. V-2. The ribbon ends are clear of the wreath. The 1872-S half dime comes with the mintmark either above or below the bow, and both varieties are similarly valued. Silver-gray surfaces blanket this near-Gem half dime, with champagne fields surrounding the figure of Liberty on the obverse. The right side of the wreath is a touch soft, but the luster is strong for the stated grade level, and the CAC approval ensures the overall eye appeal.
Ex: 60th Anniversary Sale (Stack's, 10/1995), lot 312. NGC ID# 234Z, PCGS# 4402

PROOF SEATED HALF DIME



99154 1861 PR63 PCGS. V-1. This Select proof exhibits deep shades of olive with lighter tones of russet and blue-green in the center of the obverse. The reverse is intensely shaded with auburn amid the left side of the wreath and blue-green to the right. The strike fully separates the dentils, which are often found soft in the Liberty Seated half dime series. This is an attractive yet accessible 19th century proof half dime with the all-important Gardner pedigree. Population: 35 in 63, 39 finer (9/15).
Ex: *Stack's* (10/1996), lot 147. NGC ID# 5LL5, PCGS# 4444

BUST DIME



99155 1830 Medium 10C, JR-8, R.3 — Improperly Cleaned — NGC Details. Unc. Even gray toning covers both sides of this well-detailed Bust dime. Light champagne toning blankets the obverse, and similar shades appear over the reverse. An old cleaning inhibits the luster, but apart from a few ticks on the cheek, this is a presentable example of an interesting variety.
Ex: *Coin Galleries* (11/1995), lot 1178.

99156 No lot.

PROOF SEATED DIMES



99157 1873 No Arrows, Closed 3 PR64 PCGS. All 1873 No Arrows dimes are of the Closed 3 variety, struck to the extent of 600 pieces, according to Walter Breen's *Proof Encyclopedia*, although it further notes that some were "melted July 10, 1873." Swirling golden-toned surfaces prevail throughout. A few trivial marks on the left (facing) arm limit an even finer technical grade. Described in its previous auction appearance as "a near gem displaying clear red over deep-mirror fields and sharp frosty devices." Population: 48 in 64, 22 finer (9/15).
Ex: *Numisma '95* (*Stack's* session, 11/1995), lot 1193. NGC ID# 23CX, PCGS# 4766



99158 1879 PR63 PCGS. Fortin-102. Soft russet toning is imbued with hints of olive over both sides, with the reverse displaying slighter deeper hues. The design elements are well-struck. Wispy hairlines prevent near-Gem classification. Nevertheless, this piece exhibits pleasing eye appeal and will fit nicely in a Seated dime proof collection. Most certified survivors of this 1,100-coin proof issue are about in the range of this typical survivor.
Ex: *Stack's* (9/1997), lot 689. NGC ID# 23D4, PCGS# 4776



99159 1891 PR64 PCGS. Fortin-130. This last year of the Seated Liberty dime design saw a production of 600 proofs, nearly 460 of which that have been certified by the two grading services. Russet patina dominates each side of this near-Gem. The obverse is a shade deeper, while occasional splashes of sky-blue appear on the reverse. The design elements are sharply impressed, and the surfaces are well-cared for.
Ex: *Numisma '95* (*Stack's* session, 11/1995), lot 1196. NGC ID# 23DG, PCGS# 4788

BARBER DIMES



99160 1895 MS63 NGC. Silver coinage production at the P-mint concentrated on quarters and half dollars in 1895 at the expense of dimes (only 690,000 pieces struck) and dollars (no circulation strikes known). The 1895 is one of the key dates in the series, and examples are scarcely seen finer than MS63. Mixed olive and gunmetal-blue patina covers virtually the entire obverse and leaves only a small area of silver-gray at the central reverse. Sharply defined, most notably on the wreath elements. NGC ID# 23DV, PCGS# 4806

99161 No lot.



99162 1913 MS65 ★ NGC. This late-date issue is one of the most plentiful in high grades, yet examples with Star-designated eye appeal are rarely encountered. Each side features vivid multicolor iridescence. The obverse shows light rainbow hues, and the reverse exhibits deeper shades of sunburst-orange surrounded by electric-blue, jade-green, and purple-rose. Minute abrasions are well-concealed. NGC reports 20 coins finer, but this is the sole finest with the Star designation (9/15). NGC ID# 23FR, PCGS# 4863



99163 1913 MS66 PCGS. The availability of the 1913 dime issue through Gem condition is in line with its high mintage of 19.7 million coins, but it becomes rare in MS66. A medley of pale blue, gold, and olive toning veils each side with luminous mint frost that glows through the patina. The design elements exhibit complete definition, and the surfaces are virtually unmarked. Population: 42 in 66 (2 in 66+), 0 finer (9/15).
Ex: Purchased from Mark Feld (6/2008). NGC ID# 23FR, PCGS# 4863



99164 1914 MS66 PCGS. CAC. Powder-blue and chestnut-gold patina lightly tints the surfaces of this radiantly lustrous and strongly struck Premium Gem. Remarkably smooth and a great-looking type or date example. Population: 69 in 66, 6 finer (9/15).
Ex: Central States Signature (Heritage, 5/2007); purchased from David Lawrence Rare Coins (6/2007). NGC ID# 23FT, PCGS# 4865



99165 1914 MS66 PCGS. CAC. This brilliant Premium Gem features accents of golden-violet patina and swirling cartwheel luster over each side. The strike is bold with eye appeal to match. A production exceeding 17.3 million coins belies the scarcity of the 1914 in this lofty grade. Population: 69 in 66, 6 finer (9/15).
Ex: Purchased from Pinnacle Rareities (2/2007). NGC ID# 23FT, PCGS# 4865



99166 1916 MS66 PCGS. CAC. This delightful Premium Gem sports golden-brown, ice-blue, and sea-green patina on each side. The highly lustrous surfaces show sharp detail on the headband, right ear of corn, and upper left wheat stalks. A heavily minted and proportionately saved issue, the 1916 Barber dime is accessible even in this high grade. Higher-grade examples, however, prove exceedingly rare.
Ex: Dallas Signature (Heritage, 10/2006), lot 767; Summer FUN Signature (Heritage, 7/2007), lot 554; purchased from U.S. Coins (2/2008). NGC ID# 23FY, PCGS# 4870

99167 No lot.

PROOF BARBER DIMES



99168 1895 PR63 PCGS. CAC. Unlike its circulation-strike counterpart, the 1895 proof Barber dime is among the more accessible issues in the 24-coin set. A total of 880 proofs were minted, and a healthy proportion of that number apparently survives today. Eye-catching tones drape both sides, including cobalt-blue, rose, olive, gold, and peach-orange. Light contact marks in the central reverse field fail to diminish the splendor of this Select proof offering.
Ex: Stack's (5/1999), lot 1265. NGC ID# 23G8, PCGS# 4879



99169 1902 PR64 PCGS. CAC. The implementation of an all-brilliant finish for proofs began in 1902. Production at the Philadelphia Mint culminated in 777 Barber dime specimens in that year. The obverse of this magnificent near-Gem proof is lightly toned, while the reverse has similarly patinated centers with daubs of purple, orange, and blue patina around the edges. CAC has endorsed this piece for its originality, eye appeal, and overall quality within the grade.
Ex: *Stack's* (10/1996), lot 185. NGC ID# 23GE, PCGS# 4886



99170 1909 PR64 NGC. Deep blue patina dominates this near-Gem proof Barber dime. Glimpses of green and orange appear as well. Lightly colored obverse motifs produce moderate contrast on that side, while the rich blend of tones subdues the contrast on the reverse. A pleasing survivor from the 650 proofs struck in 1909. NGC ID# 23GP, PCGS# 4893



99171 1915 PR64 PCGS. CAC. The 1915 boasts the second-lowest proof mintage in the series after the 1914 (450 coins vs. 425), but the two issues are equally scarce. Violet-toned surfaces show glimpses of iridescent blue, green, yellow, and rose. The toning is particularly attractive on the obverse. Each side is well-preserved despite several small contact marks. Population: 47 in 64 (1 in 64+), 37 finer (9/15).
Ex: *Stack's* (5/1999), lot 2151. NGC ID# 7U3S, PCGS# 4899

BUST QUARTER



99172 1834 B-2, R.4 — Improperly Cleaned — NGC Details. Unc. Deep burgundy and violet patina around the peripheries complements the silver centers on this attractive and sharply struck 1834 B-2 quarter, an appealing example of this very scarce variety. This coin was formerly in the James A. Stack Collection and it is listed as #15 in the Rea-Koenings-Haroutunian Census in the *Early Quarter Dollars* book by Rea, Peterson, et al.
Ex: *James A. Stack Collection* (*Stack's*, 10/1994), lot 360; *Albert W. Savage* (*Stack's*, 10/1997), lot 563.

SEATED QUARTERS



99173 1840-O No Drapery AU50 NGC. Briggs 2-B, showing triple-punching on the 0 in the date and the "mintmark right" position. The surfaces on this rose-gray 1840-O No Drapery quarter show few marks of any significance, other than a single scrape between Liberty's right knee and stars 11 and 12. The strike is soft on Liberty's head and upper torso, and on the reverse on the eagle's left (facing) leg and the fletchings. Census: 13 in 50, 65 finer (9/15). NGC ID# 23SG, PCGS# 5393



99174 1849 MS62 PCGS. CAC. Briggs 2-A. Large, level date with the right side of the 1 positioned between verticals 6 and 7. Intense cobalt-blue and violet are the primary hues throughout this softly lustrous Mint State example. The surfaces show well-struck design features with a number of moderate abrasions on the portrait, though they are difficult to spot with the unaided eye. Population: 8 in 62, 16 finer (8/15).
Ex: *Houston Signature* (*Heritage*, 12/2010), lot 3523. NGC ID# 23T2, PCGS# 5413



99175 1877-S MS63 NGC. An untuned, frosty silver-white coin with great eye appeal and a particularly sharp strike on Liberty's hairband, head, and gown, as well as all of the star radials. The reverse is similarly sharp throughout. Scattered small ticks on each side confirm the grade but are singularly minor. NGC ID# 23V7, PCGS# 5506

99176 No lot.

PROOF SEATED QUARTERS



99177 1862 — Reverse Improperly Cleaned — NGC Details. Proof. Briggs 5-E. Attractive olive and blue patina covers the obverse, while the reverse shows signs of an old cleaning. However, the surfaces have retuned in pleasing shades of violet-gray with peripheral rose. Proof production dipped to just 550 coins in 1862 after poor sales the year prior. Still, 120 examples remained unsold at the close of the year and were subsequently melted.
Ex: Museum of Connecticut History Collection (Stack's, 3/1998), lot 434.



99178 1878 PR63 PCGS. Briggs 4-D. This variety shows a large die lump left of the base of Liberty's staff. Toned in dusky violet-gray patina with olive and russet peripheral shadings, the surfaces of this splendid Select proof show a degree of reflectivity and a minimal number of grade-limiting contact marks. From a mintage of 800 pieces. Population: 54 in 63, 72 finer (9/15).
Ex: Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection (Bowers and Merena, 4/1997), lot 1525. NGC ID# 23XA, PCGS# 5579



99179 1882 PR63 Cameo PCGS. Briggs 2-B. A run of 1,100 proof quarters complemented a circulation-strike production of just 15,200 pieces in 1882. The low total mintage places added pressure on proofs, as they often substitute for business strikes in high-end sets. This largely untuned Select proof displays stark white-on-black contrast with a blush of crimson patina across the central reverse. Light contact marks in the fields define the grade. Population: 20 in 63 Cameo, 54 finer (9/15).
Ex: Numisma '95 (Stack's session, 11/1995), lot 1232. NGC ID# 23XE, PCGS# 85583

WASHINGTON QUARTERS



99180 1938-S MS67 PCGS. This radiant Superb Gem is awash in frosty mint luster with incredibly high technical quality. The coin appears brilliant at first glance, but closer study reveals a tinge of iridescent golden color throughout each side. The design elements are boldly rendered. High-end examples of the 1938-S quarter are in high demand among Registry Set competitors, but Superb Gems are only infrequently encountered. Population: 64 in 67 (4 in 67+), 0 finer (9/15).
Ex: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (3/2012). NGC ID# 244P, PCGS# 5807



99181 1941-S MS67 PCGS. This satiny Superb Gem shows soft champagne toning toward the interiors, deepening to lemon-gold, sky-blue, and russet around the peripheries. Trivial strike softness occurs over portions of the peripheral legends, but the central devices are sharply impressed. Among the finest obtainable in a PCGS holder, this exceptional Superb Gem is also tied with the example in the current highest-rated Registry Set. Population: 61 in 67 (4 in 67+), 0 finer (9/15).
Ex: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (3/2012). NGC ID# 244Z, PCGS# 5816



99182 1942-S MS67 PCGS. CAC. Although mintages were largely substantial for the Washington quarter series, most issues become conditionally challenging at the MS67 grade level. Superb Gems are widely sought after by Registry Set competitors. Traces of light golden color give this Superb Gem a glowing, iridescent warmth, while the radiant surfaces display a prominent cartwheel effect. The strike is sharp, and the surface preservation is outstanding. Population: 52 in 67 (7 in 67+), 1 finer (9/15).

Ex: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (3/2012). NGC ID# 3TEN, PCGS# 5819



99183 1945-S MS67 PCGS. Frosty luster illuminates beautifully blended pastel shades of lavender, ice-blue, and pale gold toning over each side of this Superb Gem Registry coin. A few faint grazes are apparent with a lens, but are in line with the grade. The strike is sharp, and the overall appeal is pleasing. Superb Gem examples of this San Francisco issue are in short supply in comparison to the demand for them, particularly in a PCGS holder. Population: 53 in 67 (6 in 67+), 0 finer (9/15).

Ex: Purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (3/2012). NGC ID# 245D, PCGS# 5829



99184 1950-S MS67 PCGS. CAC. One small area of pale amber color on the left side of the obverse is the only interruption in the delicate champagne-gold hue that encompasses both sides of this incredible Registry Set contender. The design elements are well-struck, and the heavily frosted surfaces show vibrant cartwheel luster. A few light ticks on the eagle's legs do not detract from the overall quality. Population: 93 in 67 (10 in 67+), 0 finer (9/15).

Ex: New York Signature (Heritage, 11/2003), lot 6455; Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 6/2004), lot 8347; purchased from Pinnacle Rarities (3/2012). NGC ID# 245V, PCGS# 5844

99185 No lot.

SEATED HALF DOLLARS



99186 1848-O WB-101, Die Pair 15, R.3 — Improperly Cleaned — NGC Details. Unc. Attribution points for the variety include numerous die lumps on the obverse, a downward-sloping date, and a rust lump in the field below the eagle's right (facing) wing. The relief elements are fully struck, and the central motifs display a surprising amount of frost. Green, blue, and gold shades surround lightly patinated centers, giving this coin strong eye appeal despite the noted cleaning.



99187 1855-O Arrows, WB-101, Die Pair 5, R.3, MS61 NGC. This is the only use of Obverse 5 and Reverse D, identified by a radial die crack from the dentil near star 9 through the cap to Liberty's wrist. Blushes of reddish-violet and golden patina around the borders are the only trace of color over this lustrous and brilliant O-mint Arrows half. Stars 1 to 5 are sharp, while the other stars and Liberty's head show muddled detail. Similarly, the olive leaves and wing feathers are bold, but the talons and fletchings are softly struck. The sole impairment of note is a reeding mark behind the eagle's head.

Ex: Stack's (10/1996), lot 306. PCGS# 572090 Base PCGS# 6283



99188 1856-O WB-101, Die Pair 4, R.3, MS61 NGC. CAC. A lump on the upright of the 1 and vertical die lines in the shield confirm the variety. One of the O-mint's primary roles was to convert foreign silver into coinage for domestic use, as reflected in the half dollar mintages of the 1840s and 1850s. The 1856-O enjoys a prodigious mintage of 2.6 million pieces, but survivors are scarcely seen in Mint State. This Uncirculated example features deep golden-gray patina with glints of blue and crimson. The reverse is fully struck, and the obverse is razor-sharp aside from stars 7, 8, and 12.

Ex: Numisma '95 (Stack's session, 11/1995), lot 1272. PCGS# 572095 Base PCGS# 6288



99189 1858 Type One Reverse, WB-101, AU55 NGC. Type specialists prize the 1858 (4.2 million coins struck) for its suitability as a No Motto Seated half representative. This Choice AU example displays golden-gray patina with attractive violet and blue overtones. Aside from an expected degree of minor high-point friction, the design definition is generally bold with softness confined to stars 8 through 13.
Ex: *Stack's* (1/1998), lot 1208. PCGS# 572108 Base PCGS# 6293



99190 1858 Type One Reverse, WB-101, MS62 NGC. CAC. The tops of LF in HALF nearly touch. This MS62 Seated half dollar features lively mint luster beneath original violet and stone-gray patina on each side. The stars are well-impressed with near-full radials. Only stars 7 and 8 lack definition. Liberty's head and sandal and the eagle's claws, talons, and leaves are all sharply struck. Field grazes are minimal for the grade.
Ex: *Numisma '95* (*Stack's* session, 11/1995), lot 1273. PCGS# 572108 Base PCGS# 6293



99191 1887 WB-101 — Improperly Cleaned — NGC Details. Unc. Steel-blue toning embraces this semiprooflike, low-mintage date half dollar. Reflective fields are typical of coins from this issue, as only 5,000 pieces were struck. The centers show bold definition, particularly on the lower portion of the eagle, while the upper stars, Liberty's head, and the date exhibit moderate incompleteness of strike. Each side is devoid of mentionable marks, and the old cleaning fails to diminish the appeal.
Ex: *W.R. Walling Collection* (*Stack's*, 3/1996), lot 449.

PROOF SEATED HALF DOLLARS



99192 1885 WB-101 — Artificial Toning — NGC Details. Proof. Flashes of brilliance mingle with dappled cobalt-blue, rose, crimson, and gold patina that, although artificially generated, does not diminish the overall appeal of this well-preserved proof. Like its contemporaries, the 1885 enjoys added date pressure because of the issue's low total mintage. The Mint satisfied collector demand by striking 930 proofs in 1885, plus 5,200 circulation strikes to avoid the proofs' becoming major rarities.
Ex: *W.R. Walling Collection* (*Stack's*, 3/1996), lot 447.



99193 1887 WB-101, PR62 NGC. CAC. A run of 710 proof half dollars supplemented a production of 5,000 Seated halves struck for circulation in 1887. The low mintage results in heightened demand for proofs bearing the 1887 date. This example offers violet toning over the obverse with rose hues in the centers and deeper peripheral blue-green. The reverse is tab-toned with a circular area of lavender color surrounded by a crescent of ice-blue patina. The surfaces are smooth and devoid of singular flaws. NGC ID# 27UN, PCGS# 6448

PROOF BARBER HALF DOLLAR



99194 1909 PR63 NGC. One of 650 proofs struck in 1909, this Select Barber half dollar is richly toned in golden-brown and lavender-gray hues. The reverse is slightly lighter in shade, mostly displaying olive-tan coloration with glints of rose. The patina subdues the proof mirroring, though the fields retain a degree of reflectivity. Predictably, the devices are fully struck.
Ex: *Numisma '95* (*Stack's* session, 11/1995), lot 1289. NGC ID# 24PD, PCGS# 6556

WALKING LIBERTY HALF DOLLAR



99195 1917 MS62 NGC. CAC. The 1917 Walking Liberty half issue has a mintage of nearly 12.3 million coins — the highest in the series until 1936. Examples are collectible through upper Mint State levels, but they are usually encountered with bagmarks. This lustrous, minimally abraded coin show clear thumb separation on the branch hand. The skirt lines and leg feathers display minor incompleteness. Original golden-gray and olive patina blankets each side.

Ex: *Hawn, Miller, and Globus Collections (Stack's, 5/1998)*, lot 635. NGC ID# 24PP, PCGS# 6569

TRADE DOLLAR



99196 1875-S Type One Reverse — Reverse Spot Removed — NGC Details. Unc. Large S, as usually seen. The surfaces are a rather uniform color save for a curious tan-gray area underneath the eagle's wings where some spots may have been removed. This is still quite an attractive coin, however, showing some interesting die breaks on the reverse around several peripheral elements and moderate strike softness, also on the lower reverse.

MORGAN DOLLAR



99197 1885-O MS65 NGC. Deep patina fails to defeat ample luster remaining on this Gem Morgan dollar, with claret prevailing in the center contrasting against amber, olive, and pale ice-blue, the latter more prominent on the reverse. A sharply struck and appealing example.

Ex: *Purchased from Stack's (11/1996)*. NGC ID# 254T, PCGS# 7162

COMMEMORATIVE SILVER



99198 1936 Boone MS65 PCGS. CAC. The third year of issue in the Boone series saw the production of 12,012 P-mint half dollars, 5,000 of which were issued in three-coin sets. This Gem is brilliant with frosty luster and a touch of gold patina. Minimally scattered marks are evident solely upon close inspection. Housed in a green label holder.

Ex: *Herbert D. Spencer Collection (Bowers and Merena, 6/1996)*, lot 1630. NGC ID# BYFX, PCGS# 9266



99199 1936-D Boone MS66 PCGS. CAC.

Traces of gold patina in the left obverse field and throughout the reverse color the otherwise brilliant surfaces of this satiny Premium Gem. Crisply impressed and immensely appealing. Housed in a green label holder. PCGS reports 45 submissions finer (9/15).

Ex: *Herbert D. Spencer Collection (Bowers and Merena, 6/1996)*, lot 1630. NGC ID# BYFZ, PCGS# 9267



99200 1936-S Boone MS65 PCGS. CAC.

Like the two previous lots from a matched PDS set purchased by Gene Gardner in 1996, this Gem half displays faint glints of golden toning, particularly at the upper reverse, though each side is otherwise brilliant. A frosty example from a mintage of 5,000 coins (plus six pieces for assay purposes). Housed in a green label holder.

Ex: *Herbert D. Spencer Collection (Bowers and Merena, 6/1996)*, lot 1630. NGC ID# BYG2, PCGS# 9268

99201 No lot.



99202 1936 York MS66 NGC. CAC. Designed by Portland artist Walter H. Rich, the issue commemorates the 300th anniversary of the founding of York County in Maine. Flecks of olive patina are scattered over this frosty and largely brilliant Premium Gem half. Two marks on and below the C in COUNTY prevent an even higher grade. Fully struck with excellent aesthetic quality. NGC ID# BYKV, PCGS# 9449

WORLD TOKENS



99203 1794 Suffolk One Penny Conder Token, MS65 Brown NGC. Dalton & Hamer 4. Bury. Bust to left, in cocked hat. Obverse peripheral legend: CHARLES MARQUIS CORNWALLIS. Reverse legend: HIS FAME RESOUNDS FROM EAST TO WEST. The edge lettering reads: VALUE ONE PENNY AT P DECKS POST OFFICE BURY 1794. Glossy chocolate-brown and steel-blue surfaces retain considerable red in the protected areas. Well brought up with minor softness at the lower reverse. Ex: Purchased from Sirona (5/2008)

99204 No lot.



99205 1794 Hampshire Halfpenny Conder Token, MS64 Brown NGC. Dalton & Hamer 41. Gosport. Obverse legend: PRO BONO PUBLICO 1794. Reverse legend: PROMISSORY HALFPENNY. The edge lettering reads: PAYABLE AT I. IORDANS DRAPERS GOSPORT X X. John Jordan, a mercer and draper in Gosport, issued these tokens. The design is one of a handful in the Conder series depicting a three-masted collier ship. Lustrous steel surfaces exhibit bold definition with light chatter mostly confined to the upper reverse. The obverse is exceptionally clean. Ex: Purchased from Sirona (5/2008).



99206 1796 Gloucestershire Halfpenny Conder Token, MS67 Brown NGC. Dalton & Hamer 64. Newent. Obverse legend: INDUSTRY LEADS TO HONOUR. Reverse legend: SEVERAL THOUSAND YOUNG HEALTHY & FINE CRAB APPLE & PEAR STOCKS RAISED FROM THE KERNEL TO BE SOLD BY J. MORSE NEWENT GLOUCESTERSHIRE 1796. The edge lettering reads: PAYABLE AT NEWENT. This scarce Conder token has essentially unmarked reddish-brown surfaces. The devices are boldly impressed. Undoubtedly among the finest extant. Ex: Purchased from Sirona (5/2008).



99207 (1790s) Warwickshire Halfpenny Conder Token, MS66 Red and Brown NGC. Dalton & Hamer 218. Kempson's. Bust facing right. Obverse legend: GEORGIUS III DEI GRATIA. Reverse legend: P. KEMPSON. / MAKER OF BUTTONS MEDALS & C. BIRMINGHAM. Plain edge. Bright reddish-golden patina with gunmetal-blue elements adorns each side of this crisp Premium Gem. Moderate granularity occurs above GEORG, and a small planchet flaw appears left of the first T in BUTTON. Ex: Purchased from Sirona (5/2008).



99208 1797 Warwickshire Coventry Halfpenny Conder Token, MS66 Brown Prooflike NGC. Dalton & Hamer 274. Kempson's. Obverse legend: MILL LANE GATE. Reverse legend: THE ARMS OF COVENTRY / 1797 / P. KEMPSON FECIT. The edge lettering reads: COVENTRY TOKEN. This boldly contrasted Prooflike Premium Gem has olive-brown and steel-blue surfaces with a layer of frost over fully struck design features. The surfaces are practically flawless, save for a few minuscule rim nicks. Finest certified at NGC (9/15). Ex: Purchased from Sirona (5/2008).



99209 (1790s) Middlesex Masonic Halfpenny Conder Token, MS66 Brown NGC. Dalton & Hamer 370E. Masonic series. Obverse legend: WISDOM STRENGTH & BEAUTY / SIT LUX ET LUX FUIT. Reverse legend: 24 NOV 1790 PRINCE OF WALES ELECTED G.M. The edge lettering reads: MASONIC HALFPENNY. These tokens were likely struck in Birmingham in 1794 by J. Sketchley, an auctioneer, printer, and publisher in the city. Each side features glossy reddish-brown surfaces with pinpoint-sharp detail.
Ex: Purchased from Sirona (5/2008).



99210 1795 Middlesex Halfpenny Conder Token, MS66 Red and Brown NGC. Dalton & Hamer 1018A. Political and social series. Helmeted bust facing right. Obverse legend: FOR GENERAL CONVENIENCE. Reverse legend: HALFPENNY TOKEN 1795. Milled edge. The obverse is bright copper-orange. Rose and steel-blue hues accent the luminous pumpkin-gold reverse. Well-struck and lustrous with a handful of scattered field marks.
Ex: Purchased from Sirona (5/2008).

SO-CALLED DOLLAR



99211 1876 Nevada Dollar, HK-19, R.5, PR63 PCGS. Silver, 38 mm. Julian CM-36a. Designed by Chief Engraver William Barber, this so-called dollar was struck to the extent of 2,256 pieces from Nevada-mined silver ore. The medals were sold at the Nevada Building on the grounds of the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia for \$1.25 each. The obverse shows the Liberty Bell flanked by two soldiers, while the reverse depicts a mining scene. This Select proof features iridescent blue, lavender, rose, and orange toning with razor-sharp definition and minimally scattered contact marks.

End of Auction

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BIDDER#

☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. ☐ Dr.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

COUNTRY

EMAIL

(COUNTRY CODE) DAY PHONE

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☐ IF NECESSARY, PLEASE INCREASE MY BIDS BY ☐1 ☐2 ☐3 INCREMENT(S)

Lots will be purchased as much below top bids as possible.

☐ I WANT TO LIMIT MY BIDDING TO A TOTAL OF \$

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Do you want to receive an email, text message, or fax confirming receipt of your bids?

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Payment by check may result in your property not being released until purchase funds clear our bank. Checks must be drawn on a U.S. bank. All bids are subject to the applicable Buyer's Premium. See HA.com for details.

I have read and agree to all of the Terms and Conditions of Auction: inclusive of paying interest at the lesser of 1.5% per month (18% per annum) or the maximum contract interest rate under applicable state law from the date of auction.

REFERENCES: New bidders who are unknown to us must furnish satisfactory industry references or a valid credit card in advance of the auction date.

(Signature required) Please make a copy of this bid sheet for your records.

☐ I HAVE PREVIOUSLY BOUGHT FROM HERITAGE AUCTIONS

☐ I HAVE A RESALE PERMIT – please contact 877-HERITAGE (437-4824)

Non-Internet bids (including but not limited to, podium, fax, phone and mail bids) may be submitted at any time and are treated similar to floor bids. These types of bids must be on-increment or at a half increment (called a cut bid). Any podium, fax, phone or mail bids that do not conform to a full or half increment will be rounded up or down to the nearest full or half increment and will be considered your high bid.

Current Bid	Bid Increment	Current Bid	Bid Increment
< \$10	\$1	\$10,000 - \$19,999	\$1,000
\$10 - \$49	\$2	\$20,000 - \$49,999	\$2,000
\$50 - \$99	\$5	\$50,000 - \$99,999	\$5,000
\$100 - \$199	\$10	\$100,000 - \$199,999	\$10,000
\$200 - \$499	\$20	\$200,000 - \$499,999	\$20,000
\$500 - \$999	\$50	\$500,000 - \$999,999	\$50,000
\$1,000 - \$1,999	\$100	\$1,000,000 - \$4,999,999	\$100,000
\$2,000 - \$4,999	\$200	\$5,000,000 - \$9,999,999	\$250,000
\$5,000 - \$9,999	\$500	>= \$10,000,000	\$500,000

Bid in whole dollar amounts only.

LOT NO.	AMOUNT

Please print your bids.

LOT NO.	AMOUNT

LOT NO.	AMOUNT

Last Name: _____

Bid in whole dollar amounts only.

Please print your bids.

[illegible]

Please make a copy of this bid sheet for your records.

7 Easy Ways to Bid

1 Internet

Simply go to www.pearsoncmg.com

Simply go to www.HA.com, find the auction you are looking for and click "View Lots" or type your desired Lot # into the "Search" field. Every lot is listed with full descriptions and images. Enter your bid and click "Place Bid." Proxy bidding ends one hour prior to the session start time. Live Proxy bidding continues through the session.

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You can also

You can also email your bids to us at Bid@HA.com. List lot numbers and bids, and include your name, address, phone, and customer # (if known) as well as a statement of your acceptance of the Terms and Conditions of Sale. Email bids will be accepted up to 24 hours before the live auction.

3 Postal Mail

Simply complete the B

Simply complete the Bid Sheet on the reverse side of this page with your bids on the lots you want, sign it and mail it in. If yours is the high bid on any lot, we act as your representative at the auction and buy the lot as cheaply as competition permits.

4 In Person

Come to the auction and view the lots in person and bid live on the floor.

5 FAX
Follow t

Follow the instructions for completing your mail bid, but this time FAX it to (214) 409-1425. FAX bids will be accepted until 12:00 PM CT the day prior to the auction date.

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Call 877-HERITAGE (437-482)

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Auctions designated as "Heritage Live Enabled" have continuous bidding from the time the auction is posted on our site through the live event. When normal Internet bidding ends, visit HA.com/Live and continue to place Live Proxy bids. When the item hits the auction block, you can continue to bid live against the floor and other live bidders.

Because of the many avenues by which bids may be submitted, there is the real possibility of a tie for the high bid. In the event of a tie, Internet bidders, within their credit limit, will win by default.

Terms and Conditions of Auction

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1. This Auction is presented by Heritage Auctions, a d/b/a/ of Heritage Auctioneers & Galleries, Inc., or Heritage Auctions, Inc., or Heritage Numismatic Auctions, Inc., or Heritage Vintage Sports Auctions, Inc., or Currency Auctions of America, Inc., as identified with the applicable licensing information on the title page of the catalog or on the HA.com Internet site (the "Auctioneer"). The Auction is conducted under these Terms and Conditions of Auction and applicable state and local law. Announcements and corrections from the podium and those made through the Terms and Conditions of Auctions appearing on the Internet at HA.com supersede those in the printed catalog.

Buyer's Premium:

2. All bids are subject to a Buyer's Premium which is in addition to the placed successful bid:
- Fifteen percent (15%) on Domain Names & Intellectual Property Auction lots;
- Seventeen and one-half percent (17.5%) on Currency, US Coin, and World & Ancient Coin Auction lots, except for Gallery Auction lots as noted below;
- Nineteen and one-half percent (19.5%) on Comic, Movie Poster, Sports Collectibles, and Gallery Auction (sealed bid auctions of mostly bulk numismatic material) lots;
- Twenty-two percent (22%) on Wine Auction lots;
- For lots in all other categories not listed above, the Buyer's Premium per lot is twenty-five percent (25%) on the first \$100,000 (minimum \$14), plus twenty percent (20%) of any amount between \$100,000 and \$1,000,000, plus twelve percent (12%) of any amount over \$1,000,000.

Auction Venues:

3. The following Auctions are conducted solely on the Internet: Heritage Weekly Internet Auctions (Coin, Currency, Comics, Rare Books, Jewelry & Watches, Guitars & Musical Instruments, and Vintage Movie Posters); Heritage Monthly Internet Auctions (Sports, World Coins and Rare Wine). Signature® Auctions and Grand Format Auctions accept bids from the Internet, telephone, fax, or mail first, followed by a floor bidding session; HeritageLive! and real-time telephone bidding are available to registered clients during these auctions.

Bidders:

4. Any person participating or registering for the Auction agrees to be bound by and accepts these Terms and Conditions of Auction ("Bidder(s)").
5. All Bidders must meet Auctioneer's qualifications to bid. Any Bidder who is not a client in good standing of the Auctioneer may be disqualified at Auctioneer's sole option and will not be awarded lots. Such determination may be made by Auctioneer in its sole and unlimited discretion, at any time prior to, during, or even after the close of the Auction. Auctioneer reserves the right to exclude any person from the auction.
6. If an entity places a bid, then the person executing the bid on behalf of the entity agrees to personally guarantee payment for any successful bid.

Credit:

7. In order to place bids, Bidders who have not established credit with the Auctioneer must either furnish satisfactory credit information (including two collectibles-related business references) or supply valid credit card information along with a social security number, well in advance of the Auction. Bids placed through our Interactive Internet program will only be accepted from pre-registered Bidders. Bidders who are not members of HA.com or affiliates should preregister at least 48 hours before the start of the first session (exclusive of holidays or weekends) to allow adequate time to contact references. Credit will be granted at the discretion of Auctioneer. Additionally Bidders who have not previously established credit or who wish to bid in excess of their established credit history may be required to provide their social security number or the last four digits thereof so a credit check may be performed prior to Auctioneer's acceptance of a bid. Check writing privileges and immediate delivery of merchandise may also be determined by pre-approval of credit based on a combination of criteria: HA.com history, related industry references, bank verification, a credit bureau report and/or a personal guarantee for a corporate or partnership entity in advance of the auction venue.

Bidding Options:

8. Bids in Signature, Auctions or Grand Format Auctions may be placed as set forth in the printed catalog section entitled "Choose your bidding method." For auctions held solely on the Internet, see the alternatives on HA.com. Review at <http://www.ha.com/c/ref/web-tips.zx#biddingTutorial>.
9. Presentment of Bids: Non-Internet bids (including but not limited to podium, fax, phone and mail bids) are treated similar to floor bids in that they must be on-increment or at a half increment (called a cut bid). Any podium, fax, phone, or mail bids that do not conform to a full or half increment will be rounded up or down to the nearest full or half increment and this revised amount will be considered your high bid.
10. Auctioneer's Execution of Certain Bids. Auctioneer cannot be responsible for your errors in bidding, so carefully check that every bid is entered correctly. When identical mail or FAX bids are submitted, preference is given to the first received. To ensure the greatest accuracy, your written bids should be entered on the standard printed bid sheet and be received at Auctioneer's place of business at least two business days before the Auction start. Auctioneer is not responsible for executing mail bids or FAX bids received on or after the day the first lot is sold, nor Internet bids submitted after the published closing time; nor is Auctioneer responsible for proper execution of bids submitted by telephone, mail, FAX, e-mail, Internet, or in person once the Auction begins. Bids placed electronically via the internet may not be withdrawn until your written request is received and acknowledged by Auctioneer (FAX: 214-409-1425); such requests must state the reason, and may constitute grounds for withdrawal of bidding privileges. Lots won by mail Bidders will not be delivered at the Auction unless prearranged.
11. Caveat as to Bid Increments. Bid increments (over the current bid level) determine the lowest amount you may bid on a particular lot. Bids greater than one increment over the current bid can be any whole dollar amount. It is possible under several circumstances for winning bids to be between increments, sometimes only \$1 above the previous increment. Please see: "How can I lose by less than an increment?" on our website. Bids will be accepted in whole dollar amounts only. No "buy" or "unlimited" bids will be accepted.

The following chart governs current bidding increments (see HA.com/c/ref/web-tips.zx#guidelines-increments).

Current Bid	Bid Increment
< \$10.....	\$1
\$10 - \$49.....	\$2
\$50 - \$99.....	\$5
\$100 - \$199.....	\$10
\$200 - \$499.....	\$20
\$500 - \$999.....	\$50
\$1,000 - \$1,999.....	\$100
\$2,000 - \$4,999.....	\$200
\$5,000 - \$9,999.....	\$500

Current Bid	Bid Increment
\$10,000 - \$19,999.....	\$1,000
\$20,000 - \$49,999.....	\$2,000
\$50,000 - \$99,999.....	\$5,000
\$100,000 - \$199,999.....	\$10,000
\$200,000 - \$499,999.....	\$20,000
\$500,000 - \$999,999.....	\$50,000
\$1,000,000 - \$4,999,999.....	\$100,000
\$5,000,000 - \$9,999,999.....	\$250,000
>= \$10,000,000.....	\$500,000

12. If Auctioneer calls for a full increment, a bidder may request Auctioneer to accept a bid at half of the increment ("Cut Bid") only once per lot. After offering a Cut Bid, bidders may continue to participate only at full increments. Off-increment bids may be accepted by the Auctioneer at Signature® Auctions and Grand Format Auctions. If the Auctioneer solicits bids other than the expected increment, these bids will not be considered Cut Bids.

Conducting the Auction:

13. Notice of the consignor's liberty to place bids on his lots in the Auction is hereby made in accordance with Article 2 of the Texas Business and Commercial Code. A "Minimum Bid" is an amount below which the lot will not sell. THE CONSIGNOR OF PROPERTY MAY PLACE WRITTEN "Minimum Bids" ON HIS LOTS IN ADVANCE OF THE AUCTION; ON SUCH LOTS, IF

THE HAMMER PRICE DOES NOT MEET THE "Minimum Bid", THE CONSIGNOR MAY PAY A REDUCED COMMISSION ON THOSE LOTS. "Minimum Bids" are generally posted online several days prior to the Auction closing. For any successful bid placed by a consignor on his Property on the Auction floor, or by any means during the live session, or after the "Minimum Bid" for an Auction have been posted, we will require the consignor to pay full Buyer's Premium and Seller's Commissions on such lot.

14. The highest qualified Bidder recognized by the Auctioneer shall be the Buyer. In the event of a tie bid, the earliest bid received or recognized wins. In the event of any dispute between any Bidders at an Auction, Auctioneer may at his sole discretion reoffer the lot. Auctioneer's decision and declaration of the winning Bidder shall be final and binding upon all Bidders. Bids properly offered, whether by floor Bidder or other means of bidding, may on occasion be missed or go unrecognized; in such cases, the Auctioneer may declare the recognized bid accepted as the winning bid, regardless of whether a competing bid may have been higher. Auctioneer reserves the right after the hammer fall to accept bids and reopen bidding for bids placed through the Internet or otherwise.
15. Auctioneer reserves the right to refuse to honor any bid or to limit the amount of any bid, in its sole discretion. A bid is considered not made in "Good Faith" when made by an insolvent or irresponsible person, a person under the age of eighteen, or is not supported by satisfactory credit, collectibles references, or otherwise. Regardless of the disclosure of his identity, any bid by a consignor or his agent on a lot consigned by him is deemed to be made in "Good Faith." Any person apparently appearing on the OFAC list is not eligible to bid.
16. Nominal Bids. The Auctioneer in its sole discretion may reject nominal bids, small opening bids, or very nominal advances. If a lot bearing estimates fails to open for 40-60% of the low estimate, the Auctioneer may pass the item or may place a protective bid on behalf of the consignor.
17. Lots bearing bidding estimates shall open at Auctioneer's discretion (generally 40%-60% of the low estimate). In the event that no bid meets or exceeds that opening amount, the lot shall pass as unsold.
18. All items are to be purchased per lot as numerically indicated and no lots will be broken. Auctioneer reserves the right to withdraw, prior to the close, any lots from the Auction.
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20. Auctioneer occasionally experiences Internet and/or Server service outages, and Auctioneer periodically schedules system downtime for maintenance and other purposes, during which Bidders cannot participate or place bids. If such outages occur, we may at our discretion extend bidding for the Auction. Bidders unable to place their Bids through the Internet are directed to contact Client Services at 877-HERITAGE (437-4824).
21. The Auctioneer, its affiliates, or their employees consign items to be sold in the Auction, and may bid on those lots or any other lots. Auctioneer or affiliates expressly reserve the right to modify any such bids at any time prior to the hammer based upon data made known to the Auctioneer or its affiliates. The Auctioneer may extend advances, guarantees, or loans to certain consignors.
22. The Auctioneer has the right to sell certain unsold items after the close of the Auction. Such lots shall be considered sold during the Auction and all these Terms and Conditions shall apply to such sales including but not limited to the Buyer's Premium, return rights, and disclaimers.

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23. All sales are strictly for cash in United States dollars (including U.S. currency, bank wire, cashier checks, travelers checks, eChecks, and bank money orders, and are subject to all reporting requirements). All deliveries are subject to good funds; funds being received in Auctioneer's account before delivery of the Purchases; and all payments are subject to a clearing period. Auctioneer reserves the right to determine if a check constitutes "good funds": checks drawn on a U.S. bank are subject to a ten business day hold, and thirty days when drawn on an international bank. Clients with pre-arranged credit status may receive immediate credit for payments via eCheck, personal, or corporate checks. All others will be subject to a hold of 5 days, or more, for the funds to clear prior to releasing merchandise. (Ref. T&C item 7 Credit for additional information.) Payments can be made 24-48 hours post auction from the My Orders page of the HA.com website.
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25. Lots delivered to you, or your representative are subject to all applicable state and local taxes, unless appropriate permits are on file with Auctioneer. Bidder agrees to pay Auctioneer the actual amount of tax due in the event that sales tax is not properly collected due to: 1) an expired, inaccurate, or inappropriate tax certificate or declaration, 2) an incorrect interpretation of the applicable statute, 3) or any other reason. The appropriate form or certificate must be on file at and verified by Auctioneer five days prior to Auction, or tax must be paid; only if such form or certificate is received by Auctioneer within 4 days after the Auction can a refund of tax paid be made. Lots from different Auctions may not be aggregated for sales tax purposes.
26. In the event that a Bidder's payment is dishonored upon presentment(s), Bidder shall pay the maximum statutory processing fee set by applicable state law. If you attempt to pay via eCheck and your financial institution denies this transfer from your bank account, or the payment cannot be completed using the selected funding source, you agree to complete payment using your credit card on file.
27. If any Auction invoice submitted by Auctioneer is not paid in full when due, the unpaid balance will bear interest at the highest rate permitted by law from the date of invoice until paid. Any invoice not paid when due will bear a three percent (3%) late fee on the invoice amount. If the Auctioneer refers any invoice to an attorney for collection, the buyer agrees to pay attorney's fees, court costs, and other collection costs incurred by Auctioneer. If Auctioneer assigns collection to its in-house legal staff, such attorney's time expended on the matter shall be compensated at a rate comparable to the hourly rate of independent attorneys.
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29. Auctioneer reserves the right to require payment in full in good funds before delivery of the merchandise.
30. Auctioneer shall have a lien against the merchandise purchased by the buyer to secure payment of the Auction invoice. Auctioneer is further granted a lien and the right to retain possession of any other property of the buyer then held by the Auctioneer or its affiliates to secure payment of any Auction invoice or any other amounts due the Auctioneer or affiliates from the buyer. With respect to these lien rights, Auctioneer shall have all the rights of a secured creditor under Article 9 of the Texas Uniform Commercial Code, including but not limited to the right of sale (including a 15% seller's commission, if assigned to an auction conducted by Auctioneer). In

Terms and Conditions of Auction

addition, with respect to payment of the Auction invoice(s), the buyer waives any and all rights of offset he might otherwise have against the Auctioneer and the consignor of the merchandise included on the invoice. If a Bidder owes Auctioneer or its affiliates on any account, Auctioneer and its affiliates shall have the right to offset such unpaid account by any credit balance due Bidder, and it may secure by possessory lien any unpaid amount by any of the Bidder's property in their possession..

31. Title shall not pass to the successful Bidder until all invoices are paid in full. It is the responsibility of the buyer to provide adequate insurance coverage for the items once they have been delivered to a common carrier or third-party shipper.

Delivery; Shipping; and Handling Charges:

32. Buyer is liable for shipping, handling, registration, and renewal fees, if any. Please refer to Auctioneer's website HA.com/c/shipping.zx for the latest charges or call Auctioneer. Auctioneer is unable to combine purchases from other auctions or affiliates into one package for shipping purposes. Lots won will be shipped in a commercially reasonable time after payment in good funds for the merchandise and the shipping fees is received or credit extended, except when third-party shipment occurs. Buyer agrees that Service and Handling charges related to shipping items which are not pre-paid may be charged to the credit card on file with Auctioneer.

33. Successful international Bidders shall provide written shipping instructions, including specified customs declarations, to the Auctioneer for any lots to be delivered outside of the United States. NOTE: Declaration value shall be the item(s) hammer price together with its buyer's premium and Auctioneer shall use the correct harmonized code for the lot. Domestic Buyers on lots designated for third-party shipment must designate the common carrier, accept risk of loss, and prepay shipping costs.

34. All shipping charges will be borne by the successful Bidder. On all domestic shipments, any risk of loss during shipment will be borne by Heritage until the shipping carrier's confirmation of delivery to the address of record in Auctioneer's file (carrier's confirmation is conclusive to prove delivery to Bidder; if the client has a Signature release on file with the carrier, the package is considered delivered without Signature) or delivery by Heritage to Bidder's selected third-party shipper. On all foreign shipments, any risk of loss during shipment will be borne by the Bidder following Auctioneer's delivery to the Bidder's designated common carrier or third-party shipper.

35. Due to the nature of some items sold, it shall be the responsibility for the successful Bidder to arrange pick-up and shipping through third-parties; as to such items Auctioneer shall have no liability. Failure to pick-up or arrange shipping in a timely fashion (within ten days) shall subject Lots to storage and moving charges, including a \$100 administration fee plus \$10 daily storage for larger items and \$5.00 daily for smaller items (storage fee per item) after 35 days. In the event the Lot is not removed within ninety days, the Lot may be offered for sale to recover any past due storage or moving fees, including a 10% Seller's Commission.

36A. The laws of various countries regulate the import or export of certain plant and animal properties, including (but not limited to) items made of (or including) ivory, whalebone, turtle shell, coral, crocodile, or other wildlife. Transport of such lots may require special licenses for export, import, or both. Bidder is responsible for: 1) obtaining all information on such restricted items for both export and import; 2) obtaining all such licenses and/or permits. Delay or failure to obtain any such license or permit does not relieve the buyer of timely compliance with standard payment terms. For further information, please contact Ron Brackemyre at 800- 872-6467 ext. 1312.

36B. California State law prohibits the importation of any product containing Python skin into the State of California, thus no lot containing Python skin will be shipped to or invoiced to a person or company in California.

36C. Auctioneer shall not be liable for any loss caused by or resulting from:

- a. Seizure or destruction under quarantine or Customs regulation, or confiscation by order of any Government or public authority, or risks of contraband or illegal transportation of trade, or
- b. Breakage of statuary, marble, glassware, bric-a-brac, porcelains, jewelry, and similar fragile articles

37. Any request for shipping verification for undelivered packages must be made within 30 days of shipment by Auctioneer.

Cataloging, Warranties and Disclaimers:

38. NO WARRANTY, WHETHER EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, IS MADE WITH RESPECT TO ANY DESCRIPTION CONTAINED IN THIS AUCTION OR ANY SECOND OPINE. Any description of the items or second opine contained in this Auction is for the sole purpose of identifying the items for those Bidders who do not have the opportunity to view the lots prior to bidding, and no description of items has been made part of the basis of the bargain or has created any express warranty that the goods would conform to any description made by Auctioneer. Color variations can be expected in any electronic or printed imaging, and are not grounds for the return of any lot. NOTE: Auctioneer, in specified auction venues, for example, Fine Art, may have express written warranties and you are referred to those specific terms and conditions. .

39. Auctioneer is selling only such right or title to the items being sold as Auctioneer may have by virtue of consignment agreements on the date of auction and disclaims any warranty of title to the Property. Auctioneer disclaims any warranty of merchantability or fitness for any particular purposes. All images, descriptions, sales data, and archival records are the exclusive property of Auctioneer, and may be used by Auctioneer for advertising, promotion, archival records, and any other uses deemed appropriate.

40. Translations of foreign language documents may be provided as a convenience to interested parties. Auctioneer makes no representation as to the accuracy of those translations and will not be held responsible for errors in bidding arising from inaccuracies in translation.

41. Auctioneer disclaims all liability for damages, consequential or otherwise, arising out of or in connection with the sale of any Property by Auctioneer to Bidder. No third party may rely on any benefit of these Terms and Conditions and any rights, if any, established hereunder are personal to the Bidder and may not be assigned. Any statement made by the Auctioneer is an opinion and does not constitute a warranty or representation. No employee of Auctioneer may alter these Terms and Conditions, and, unless signed by a principal of Auctioneer, any such alteration is null and void.

42. Auctioneer shall not be liable for breakage of glass or damage to frames (patent or latent); such defects, in any event, shall not be a basis for any claim for return or reduction in purchase price.

Release:

43. In consideration of participation in the Auction and the placing of a bid, Bidder expressly releases Auctioneer, its officers, directors and employees, its affiliates, and its outside experts that provide second opinions, from any and all claims, cause of action, chose of action, whether at law or equity or any arbitration or mediation rights existing under the rules of any professional society or affiliation based upon the assigned description, or a derivative theory, breach of warranty express or implied, representation or other matter set forth within these Terms and Conditions of Auction or otherwise. In the event of a claim, Bidder agrees that such rights and privileges conferred therein are strictly construed as specifically declared herein; e.g., authenticity, typographical error, etc. and are the exclusive remedy. Bidder, by non-compliance to these express terms of a granted remedy, shall waive any claim against Auctioneer.

44. Notice: Some Property sold by Auctioneer are inherently dangerous e.g. firearms, cannons, and small items that may be swallowed or ingested or may have latent defects all of which may cause harm to a person. Purchaser accepts all risk of loss or damage from its purchase of these items and Auctioneer disclaims any liability whether under contract or tort for damages and losses, direct or consequential, and expressly disclaims any warranty as to safety or usage of any lot sold.

Dispute Resolution and Arbitration Provision:

45. By placing a bid or otherwise participating in the auction, Bidder accepts these Terms and Conditions of Auction, and specifically agrees to the dispute resolution provided herein. Consumer disputes shall be resolved through court litigation which has an exclusive Dallas, Texas venue clause and jury waiver. Non-consumer dispute shall be determined in binding arbitration which arbitration replaces the right to go to court, including the right to a jury trial.

46. Auctioneer in no event shall be responsible for consequential damages, incidental damages, compensatory damages, or any other damages arising or claimed to be arising from the auction of any lot. In the event that Auctioneer cannot deliver the lot or subsequently it is established that the lot lacks title, or other transfer or condition issue is claimed, in such cases the sole remedy shall be limited to rescission of sale and refund of the amount paid by Bidder; in no case shall Auctioneer's maximum liability exceed the high bid on that lot, which bid shall be deemed for all purposes the value of the lot. After one year has elapsed, Auctioneer's maximum liability shall be limited to any commissions and fees Auctioneer earned on that lot.

47. In the event of an attribution error, Auctioneer may at its sole discretion, correct the error on the Internet, or, if discovered at a later date, to refund the buyer's purchase price without further obligation.

48. Exclusive Dispute Resolution Process: All claims, disputes, or controversies in connection with, relating to and/or arising out of your Participation in the Auction or purchase of any lot, any interpretation of the Terms and Conditions of Sale or any amendments thereto, any description of any lot or condition report, any damage to any lot, any alleged verbal modification of any term of sale or condition report or description and/or any purported settlement whether asserted in contract, tort, under Federal or State statute or regulation or any claim made by you of a lot or your Participation in the auction involving the auction or a specific lot involving a warranty or representation of a consignor or other person or entity including Auctioneer { which claim you consent to be made a party} (collectively, "Claim") shall be exclusively heard by, and the claimant (or respondent as the case may be) and Heritage each consent to the Claim being presented in a confidential binding arbitration before a single arbitrator administrated by and conducted under the rules of the American Arbitration Association. The locale for all such arbitrations shall be Dallas, Texas. The arbitrator's award may be enforced in any court of competent jurisdiction. If a Claim involves a consumer, exclusive subject matter jurisdiction for the Claim is in the State District Courts of Dallas County, Texas and the consumer consents to subject matter and in personam jurisdiction; further CONSUMER EXPRESSLY WAIVES ANY RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY. A consumer may elect arbitration as specified above. Any claim involving the purchase or sale of numismatic or related items may be submitted through binding PNG arbitration. Any Claim must be brought within two (2) years of the alleged breach, default or misrepresentation or the Claim is waived. Exemplary or punitive damages are not permitted and are waived. A Claim is not subject to class certification. Nothing herein shall be construed to extend the time of return or conditions and restrictions for return. This Agreement and any Claim shall be determined and construed under Texas law. The prevailing party (a party that is awarded substantial and material relief on its damage claim based on damages sought vs. awarded or the successful defense of a Claim based on damages sought vs. awarded) may be awarded its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

49. No claims of any kind can be considered after the settlements have been made with the consignors. Any dispute after the settlement date is strictly between the Bidder and consignor without involvement or responsibility of the Auctioneer.

50. In consideration of their participation in or application for the Auction, a person or entity (whether the successful Bidder, a Bidder, a purchaser and/or other Auction participant or registrant) agrees that all disputes in any way relating to, arising under, connected with, or incidental to these Terms and Conditions and purchases, or default in payment thereof, shall be arbitrated pursuant to the arbitration provision. In the event that any matter including actions to compel arbitration, construe the agreement, actions in aid or arbitration or otherwise needs to be litigated, such litigation shall be exclusively in the Courts of the State of Texas, in Dallas County, Texas, and if necessary the corresponding appellate courts. For such actions, the successful Bidder, purchaser, or Auction participant also expressly submits himself to the personal jurisdiction of the State of Texas.

51. These Terms & Conditions provide specific remedies for occurrences in the auction and delivery process. Where such remedies are afforded, they shall be interpreted strictly. Bidder agrees that any claim shall utilize such remedies; Bidder making a claim in excess of those remedies provided in these Terms and Conditions agrees that in no case whatsoever shall Auctioneer's maximum liability exceed the high bid on that lot, which bid shall be deemed for all purposes the value of the lot.

Miscellaneous:

52. Agreements between Bidders and consignors to effectuate a non-sale of an item at Auction, inhibit bidding on a consigned item to enter into a private sale agreement for said item, or to utilize the Auctioneer's Auction to obtain sales for non-selling consigned items subsequent to the Auction, are strictly prohibited. If a subsequent sale of a previously consigned item occurs in violation of this provision, Auctioneer reserves the right to charge Bidder the applicable Buyer's Premium and consignor a Seller's Commission as determined for each auction venue and by the terms of the seller's agreement.

53. Acceptance of these Terms and Conditions qualifies Bidder as a client who has consented to be contacted by Heritage in the future. In conformity with "do-not-call" regulations promulgated by the Federal or State regulatory agencies, participation by the Bidder is affirmative consent to being contacted at the phone number shown in his application and this consent shall remain in effect until it is revoked in writing. Heritage may from time to time contact Bidder concerning sale, purchase, and auction opportunities available through Heritage and its affiliates and subsidiaries.

54. Rules of Construction: Auctioneer presents properties in a number of collectible fields, and as such, specific venues have promulgated supplemental Terms and Conditions. Nothing herein shall be construed to waive the general Terms and Conditions of Auction by these additional rules and shall be construed to give force and effect to the rules in their entirety.

State Notices:

Notice as to an Auction in California. Auctioneer has in compliance with Title 2.95 of the California Civil Code as amended October 11, 1993 Sec. 1812.600, posted with the California Secretary of State its bonds for it and its employees, and the auction is being conducted in compliance with Sec. 2338 of the Commercial Code and Sec. 535 of the Penal Code.

Notice as to an Auction in New York City. These Terms and Conditions of Sale are designed to conform to the applicable sections of the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs Rules and Regulations as Amended. This sale is a Public Auction Sale conducted by Heritage Auctioneers & Galleries, Inc. # 41513036. The New York City licensed auctioneers are: Sam Foose, #095260; Kathleen Guzman, #0762165; Nicholas Dawes, #1304724; Ed Beardsley, #1183220; Scott Peterson, #1306933; Andrea Voss, #1320558, who will conduct the Sale on behalf of itself and Heritage Numismatic Auctions, Inc. (for Coins) and Currency Auctions of America, Inc. (for currency). All lots are subject to: the consignor's rights to bid thereon in accord with these Terms and Conditions of Sale, consignor's option to receive advances on their consignments, and Auctioneer, in its sole discretion, may offer limited extended financing to registered bidders, in accord with Auctioneer's internal credit standards. A registered bidder may inquire whether a lot is subject to an advance or a reserve. Auctioneer has made advances to various consignors in this sale. On lots bearing an estimate, the term refers to a value range placed on an item by the Auctioneer in its sole opinion but the final price is determined by the bidders.

Notice as to an Auction in Texas. In compliance with TDLR rule 67.100(c)(1), notice is hereby provided that this auction is covered by a Recovery Fund administered by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, P.O. Box 12157, Austin, Texas 78711 (512) 463-6599. Any complaints may be directed to the same address.

Notice as to an Auction in Ohio: Auction firm and Auctioneer are licensed by the Dept. of Agriculture, and either the licensee is bonded in favor of the state or an aggrieved person may initiate a claim against the auction recovery fund created in Section 4707.25 of the Revised Code as a result of the licensee's actions, whichever is applicable.

Terms and Conditions of Auction

Additional Terms & Conditions:

COINS & CURRENCY

COINS and CURRENCY TERM A: Signature. Auctions are not on approval. No certified material may be returned because of possible differences of opinion with respect to the grade offered by any third-party organization, dealer, or service. No guarantee of grade is offered for uncertified Property sold and subsequently submitted to a third-party grading service. There are absolutely no exceptions to this policy. Under extremely limited circumstances, (e.g. gross cataloging error) a purchaser, who did not bid from the floor, may request Auctioneer to evaluate voiding a sale: such request must be made in writing detailing the alleged gross error; submission of the lot to the Auctioneer must be pre-approved by the Auctioneer; and bidder must notify Ron Brackemyre (1-800-872-6467 Ext. 1312) in writing of such request within three (3) days of the non-floor bidder's receipt of the lot. Any lot that is to be evaluated must be in our offices within 30 days after Auction. Grading or method of manufacture do not qualify for this evaluation process nor do such complaints constitute a basis to challenge the authenticity of a lot. AFTER THAT 30-DAY PERIOD, NO LOTS MAY BE RETURNED FOR REASONS OTHER THAN AUTHENTICITY. Lots returned must be housed intact in their original holder. No lots purchased by floor Bidders may be returned (including those Bidders acting as agents for others) except for authenticity. Late remittance for purchases may be considered just cause to revoke all return privileges.

COINS and CURRENCY TERM B: Auctions conducted solely on the Internet THREE (3) DAY RETURN POLICY: Certified Coin and Uncertified and Certified Currency lots paid for within seven days of the Auction closing are sold with a three (3) day return privilege unless otherwise noted in the description as "Sold As Is, No Return Lot". You may return lots under the following conditions: Within three days of receipt of the lot, you must first notify Auctioneer by contacting Client Service by phone (877-HERITAGE (437-4824)) or e-mail (Bid@HA.com), and immediately ship the lot(s) fully insured to the attention of Returns, Heritage, 3500 Maple Avenue, 17th Floor, Dallas TX 75219-3941. Lots must be housed intact in their original holder and condition. You are responsible for the insured, safe delivery of any lots. A non-negotiable return fee of 5% of the purchase price (\$10 per lot minimum) will be deducted from the refund for each returned lot or billed directly. Postage and handling fees are not refunded. After the three-day period (from receipt), no items may be returned for any reason. Late remittance for purchases revokes these Return privileges.

COINS and CURRENCY TERM C: Bidders who have inspected the lots prior to any Auction, or attended the Auction, or bid through an Agent, will not be granted any return privileges, except for reasons of authenticity.

COINS and CURRENCY TERM D: Coins sold referencing a third-party grading service are sold "as is" without any express or implied warranty, except for a guarantee by Auctioneer that they are genuine. Certain warranties may be available from the grading services and the Bidder is referred to them for further details: Numismatic Guaranty Corporation (NGC), P.O. Box 4776, Sarasota, FL 34230, <http://www.ngccoin.com/services/writtenguarantee.asp>; Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS), PO Box 9458, Newport Beach, CA 92658, <http://www.pcg.com/guarantee.html>; ANACS, 6555 S. Kenton St. Ste. 303, Englewood, CO 80111; and Independent Coin Grading Co. (ICG), 7901 East Bellevue Ave., Suite 50, Englewood, CO 80111.

COINS and CURRENCY TERM E: Notes sold referencing a third-party grading service are sold "as is" without any express or implied warranty, except for guarantee by Auctioneer that they are genuine. Grading, condition or other attributes of any lot may have a material effect on its value, and the opinion of others, including third-party grading services such as PCGS Currency, PMG, and CGA may differ with that of Auctioneer. Auctioneer shall not be bound by any prior or subsequent opinion, determination, or certification by any grading service. Bidder specifically waives any claim to right of return of any item because of the opinion, determination, or certification, or lack thereof, by any grading service. Certain warranties may be available from the grading services and the Bidder is referred to them for further details: Paper Money Guaranty (PMG), PO Box 4711, Sarasota FL 34230; PCGS Currency, PO Box 9458, Newport Beach, CA 92658; Currency Grading & Authentication (CGA), PO Box 418, Three Bridges, NJ 08887. Third party graded notes are not returnable for any reason whatsoever.

COINS and CURRENCY TERM F: Since we cannot examine encapsulated coins or notes, they are sold "as is" without our grading opinion, and may not be returned for any reason. Auctioneer shall not be

liable for any patent or latent defect or controversy pertaining to or arising from any encapsulated collectible. In any such instance, purchaser's remedy, if any, shall be solely against the service certifying the collectible.

COINS and CURRENCY TERM G: Due to changing grading standards over time, differing interpretations, and to possible mishandling of items by subsequent owners, Auctioneer reserves the right to grade items differently than shown on certificates from any grading service that accompany the items. Auctioneer also reserves the right to grade items differently than the grades shown in the prior catalog should such items be reconsigned to any future auction.

COINS and CURRENCY TERM H: Although consensus grading is employed by most grading services, it should be noted as aforesaid that grading is not an exact science. In fact, it is entirely possible that if a lot is broken out of a plastic holder and resubmitted to another grading service or even to the same service, the lot could come back with a different grade assigned.

COINS and CURRENCY TERM I: Certification does not guarantee protection against the normal risks associated with potentially volatile markets. The degree of liquidity for certified coins and collectibles will vary according to general market conditions and the particular lot involved. For some lots there may be no active market at all at certain points in time.

COINS and CURRENCY TERM J: All non-certified coins and currency are guaranteed genuine, but are not guaranteed as to grade, since grading is a matter of opinion, an art and not a science, and therefore the opinion rendered by the Auctioneer or any third party grading service may not agree with the opinion of others (including trained experts), and the same expert may not grade the same item with the same grade at two different times. Auctioneer has graded the non-certified numismatic items, in the Auctioneer's opinion, to their current interpretation of the American Numismatic Association's standards as of the date the catalog was prepared. There is no guarantee or warranty implied or expressed that the grading standards utilized by the Auctioneer will meet the standards of any grading service at any time in the future.

COINS and CURRENCY TERM K: Storage of purchased coins and currency: Purchasers are advised that certain types of plastic may react with a coin's metal or transfer plasticizer to notes and may cause damage. Caution should be used to avoid storage in materials that are not inert.

COINS and CURRENCY TERM L: NOTE: Purchasers of rare coins or currency through Heritage have available the option of arbitration by the Professional Numismatists Guild (PNG); if an election is not made within ten (10) days of an unresolved dispute, Auctioneer may elect either PNG or A.A.A. Arbitration.

COINS and CURRENCY TERM M: For more information regarding Canadian lots attributed to the Charlton reference guides, please contact: Charlton International, PO Box 820, Station Willowdale B, North York, Ontario M2K 2R1 Canada.

COINS and CURRENCY TERM N: Some of the lots offered herein have been assigned to 1031 Services, Inc. for the purpose of consignor's tax deferred exchange.

COINS and CURRENCY TERM O: Financing. Auctioneer offers various extended payment options to qualified pre-approved persons and companies. The options include Extended Payment Programs (EPP) Flexible Payment Program (FPP) and Dealer Terms. Each program has its specific terms and conditions and such terms and conditions are strictly enforced. Each program has to be executed by the purchaser. Auctioneer reserves the right to alter or deny credit and in such case these auction terms shall control.

For wiring instructions call the Credit department at 877-HERITAGE (437-4824) or e-mail: CreditDept@HA.com

New York State Auctions Only

Notice as to an Auction in New York City. These Terms and Conditions of Sale are designed to conform to the applicable sections of the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs Rules and Regulations as Amended. This sale is a Public Auction Sale conducted by Heritage Auctioneers & Galleries, Inc. #1364738. The New York City licensed auctioneers are: Samuel Foose 0952360; Robert Korver 1096338; Kathleen Guzman 0762165; Michael J. Sadler 1304630; Scott Peterson 1306933; Andrea Voss 1320558; Nicholas Dawes 1304724; Ed Beardsley 1183220; Bob Merrill 1473403; Paul Minshull 2001161; Fiona Elias 2001163; Brian Nalley 2001162; Jennifer Marsh 2009623; Alissa Ford 2009565, who will conduct the Sale on behalf of itself and Heritage Auctioneers & Galleries, Inc. All lots are subject to: the consignor's rights to bid thereon in accord with these Terms and Conditions of Sale, consignor's option to receive advances on their consignments, and Auctioneer, in its sole discretion, may offer limited extended financing to registered bidders, in accord with Auctioneer's internal credit standards or receive a guaranty. A registered bidder may inquire whether a lot is subject to an advance, a reserve, or a guaranty. Auctioneer has made advances to various consignors in this sale and a guaranty. On lots bearing an estimate, the term refers to a value range placed on an item by the Auctioneer in its sole opinion but the final price is determined by the bidders. Rev 3-23-2015

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Kathleen Guzman, Managing Director-New York

* Primary office location: New York

** Primary office location: Beverly Hills

*** Primary office location: San Francisco

Upcoming Auctions

Numismatic Auctions	Location	Auction Dates	Consignment Deadline
U.S. & World Currency - The Eric P. Newman Collection, Part VII	Dallas	October 21-24, 2015	Closed
U.S. Coins, Gardner Collection, Part IV	New York	October 28, 2015	Closed
U.S. Coins	New York	October 29-30, 2015	Closed
U.S. Coins (Houston Money Show)	Houston	December 3-4, 2015	October 20, 2015
World Coins	Hong Kong	December 10-12, 2015	October 19, 2015
World Currency	Hong Kong	December 11-12, 2015	October 20, 2015
World & Ancient Coins (NYINC)	New York	January 3-4, 2016	November 13, 2015
U.S. Coins (FUN)	Tampa	January 6-8, 2016	November 23, 2015
U.S. & World Currency (FUN)	Tampa	January 6-12, 2016	November 16, 2015
Fine & Decorative Arts Auctions	Location	Auction Dates	Consignment Deadline
Nature & Science	Dallas	October 4, 2015	Closed
20th & 21st Century Design	Dallas	October 10, 2015	Closed
Illustration Art	New York	October 14, 2015	Closed
Nature & Science	New York	October 15, 2015	Closed
American Indian Art	Dallas	November 6, 2015	Closed
Texas Art	Dallas	November 7, 2015	Closed
Fine Silver & Objects Of Vertu	Dallas	November 12, 2015	Closed
Modern & Contemporary Art	Dallas	November 13, 2015	Closed
Photographs	Dallas	November 14, 2015	Closed
American Art	New York	November 16, 2015	Closed
Tiffany, Lalique & Art Glass	Dallas	November 23, 2015	Closed
European Art	Dallas	December 9, 2015	October 2, 2015
Nature & Science	Dallas	January 31, 2016	November 17, 2015
Fine & Decorative Arts including Estates	Dallas	February 20, 2016	December 14, 2015
20th & 21st Century Design	Dallas	March 29, 2016	January 19, 2016
Fine Silver & Objects Of Vertu	Dallas	April 14, 2016	February 11, 2016
Illustration Art	Dallas	April 22, 2016	February 15, 2016
Photographs	Dallas	April 30, 2016	February 22, 2016
American Art	Dallas	May 7, 2016	February 29, 2016
American Indian Art	Dallas	May 20, 2016	March 15, 2016
Texas Art	Dallas	May 21, 2016	March 14, 2016
Memorabilia & Collectibles Auctions	Location	Auction Dates	Consignment Deadline
Guitars & Musical Instruments	Beverly Hills	October 24, 2015	Closed
Animation Art	Dallas	October 30, 2015	Closed
Sports	Dallas	November 5-7, 2015	Closed
Comics & Original Comic Art	Beverly Hills	November 19-20, 2015	October 6, 2015
Vintage Movie Posters	Dallas	November 21-22, 2015	September 29, 2015
Animation Art	Dallas	December 14, 2015	October 30, 2015
Stallone - The Auction	Los Angeles	December 18-20, 2015	Closed
Comics & Original Comic Art	Dallas	February 18-20, 2016	January 5, 2016
Entertainment & Music	Dallas	February 20, 2016	December 11, 2015
Sports - Platinum Night®	New York	February 20, 2016	December 30, 2015
Historical Collectibles Auctions	Location	Auction Dates	Consignment Deadline
Americana & Political - The Merrill C. Berman Collection, III	Dallas	September 26, 2015	Closed
Arms & Armor - The Gary Robertson Collection	Dallas	October 25, 2015	Closed
Historical Manuscripts	New York	November 4, 2015	Closed
Rare Books	New York	November 4, 2015	Closed
Space Exploration	Dallas	November 6, 2015	Closed
Americana & Political	Dallas	November 7, 2015	Closed
Civil War & Militaria	Dallas	December 11, 2015	October 20, 2015
Arms & Armor	Dallas	December 13, 2015	October 22, 2015
Americana & Political	Dallas	February 27, 2016	December 30, 2015
Texana	Dallas	March 12, 2016	January 20, 2016
Rare Books	New York	April 6, 2016	February 15, 2016
Historical Manuscripts	Dallas	Spring 2016	February 15, 2016
Luxury Lifestyle Auctions	Location	Auction Dates	Consignment Deadline
Luxury Accessories	Beverly Hills	September 28-29, 2015	Closed
Fine Jewelry	Beverly Hills	September 28-29, 2015	Closed
Luxury Real Estate	New Hampshire	October 6, 2015	Closed
Timepieces	New York	October 29, 2015	Closed
Fine & Rare Wine	Beverly Hills	December 4-5, 2015	November 2, 2015
Fine Jewelry	Dallas	December 7-8, 2015	October 6, 2015
Luxury Accessories	Dallas	December 7-8, 2015	October 6, 2015
Luxury Real Estate	Florida	December 8, 2015	Closed
Timepieces	New York	May 29, 2016	February 15, 2016
Domain Names	Location	Auction Dates	Consignment Deadline
Domain Names	Dallas	August 2016	July 15, 2016

HA.com/Consign • Consignment Hotline 877-HERITAGE (437-4824) • All dates and auctions subject to change after press time. Go to HA.com for updates.

HERITAGE INTERNET-ONLY AUCTIONS with Live Sessions

Comics – 6PM CT Sundays
Movie Posters – 6PM CT Sundays
Sports – 10PM CT Sundays (Extended Bidding)
U.S. Coins – 7PM CT Sundays & Tuesdays
Currency – 7PM CT Tuesdays
Luxury Accessories – 9PM CT Tuesdays

Timepieces & Jewelry – 8PM CT Tuesdays
Nature & Science – 10PM CT Thursdays
Rare Books & Autographs – 8PM CT Thursdays
World Coins – 8PM CT Thursdays
Wine – 10PM CT 2nd Thursdays
Monthly World Coins – 8PM CT final Sundays

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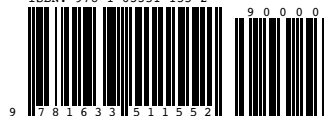
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